

A groundbreaking collaboration



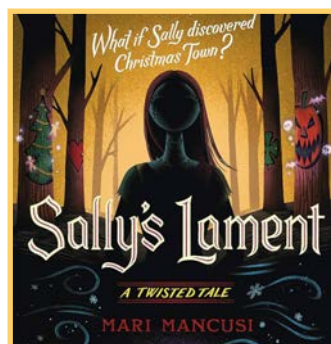
Photo by courtesy of Schoolcraft College

A rendering of the future Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace that will be built in the North Parking Lot on campus. See News page 2



**Coming together
to fight hunger
with empty bowls**

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Campus Life
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**A twist on the
classic tale A
Nightmare Before
Christmas**

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**Get the inside
story on
Schoolcraft's
Men's Basketball
coach**

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NEWS

Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace brings culinary and business opportunities to campus

ALEXANDER DYGA
STAFF WRITER

Construction is set to begin soon for an expansion of Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace on Schoolcraft College's campus. The local premium fruit market and grocer will be built between the Visatech Center and the Jeffress Center, replacing a portion of the north parking lot. The building will integrate with Schoolcraft's culinary and business programs, and will serve nearby communities with fresh and prepared foods in a storefront on Haggerty Road near Seven Mile.

A multigenerational family business with roots in Terrasini, Italy, Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace has grown into a thriving local establishment, said Leo Salvaggio, the company's CEO. With locations across the metro Detroit area, the company has a strong foothold in the region. As times change, Salvaggio is looking to new avenues of success. "I believe the future is in prepared foods. Everyone wants convenience, but they shouldn't have to sacrifice quality," he explained. "A future goal of Nino Salvaggio is to offer healthy, delicious prepared foods for the community alongside our produce."

This goal led to an exciting opportunity for collaboration with Schoolcraft College. With a renowned culinary program, the prospective partnership presented a valuable opportunity, Salvaggio explained.

"The goal here at Schoolcraft College is to take Nino Salvaggio from a fruit market store to a culinary experience... Where else have you seen anything like this? It's a one-of-a-kind opportunity for us to learn from



Schoolcraft Board Trustee members, Schoolcraft President Dr. Glenn Cerny, Leo Salvaggio, and various delegates from the community gather to break ground for the future Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace. (Photo by Jess Michael)

students and for the students to learn from us."

Schoolcraft President, Dr. Glenn Cerny shared his enthusiasm for the partnership.

"It's the student experiences that draw students to Schoolcraft College. You're having experiential learning, you are doing real life things... Nino Salvaggio coming to campus is another way for our students to get real work experience." He expressed hope that the partnership would benefit Schoolcraft's culinary program for years to come and integrate seamlessly into the school's business programs.

Cerny also detailed the major financial resources this partnership would bring to Schoolcraft, including rent paid by Nino Salvaggio for use of the school's land and

the Salvaggio-funded construction of a new parking lot along Haggerty road. The income generated will fund improvements across campus and support various programs. Future updates to the Liberal Arts building and repairs to the adjacent parking lot may also be considered.

The cementing of a partnership between Schoolcraft and Nino Salvaggio was neither easy nor quick—the two groups worked behind the scenes for months before making a public announcement.

"These deals," Cerny explained, "like the Trinity deal, took a few months... These things take time because each of them is

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-Dr. Glenn Cerny
President of Schoolcraft College

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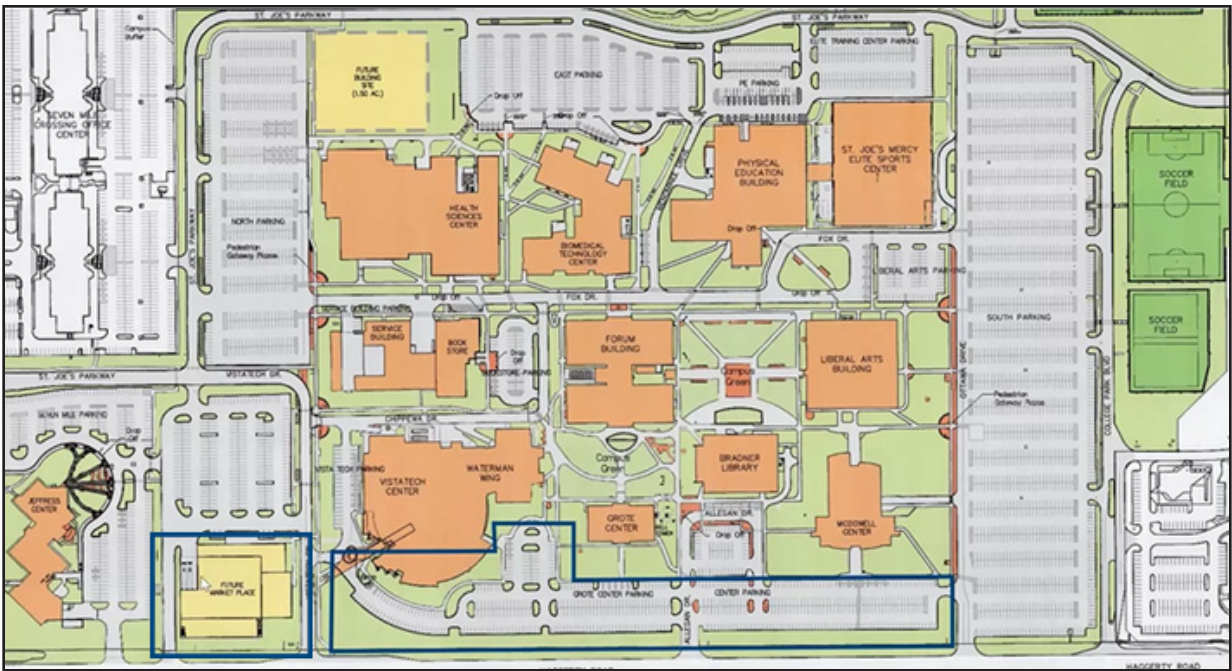
unique. But in the endgame, it's very positive for the college."

"It's like a relationship," Salvaggio said. "It's hard work; you can't go to bed angry... We've created a great relationship." Both Cerny and Salvaggio cited financial difficulties and the collaborative process as hurdles that were eventually overcome; culminating in the announcement of a nonbinding memorandum on March 6 and an official groundbreaking on November 7, publicly finalizing the project and rewarding the combined effort.

Construction has yet to begin in earnest. "In every project you have a key pathway. For this project, that pathway is the completion of the parking lot," Cerny said. The completion of this parking lot will allow construction of the Nino Salvaggio location to progress without significant impact on students and faculty, he explained. As soon as the lot is finished contractors will begin work on the new building.

Cerny speculated that integrating the college's educational experiences into the business could begin as early as next January.

"We're going to need nine to twelve



Overhead view illustrating the changes occurring on campus. (Photo courtesy of Schoolcraft College)

months to really work through the scenarios... the Curriculum Office is going to have to figure out how this will change the curriculum," he explained. "There's due diligence that has to be done but I'd expect it will begin in January."

Salvaggio expressed excitement for the involvement of students in the new store, which will feature a classroom along with opportunities to engage with the business. "We're going to have students in the store, learning how to order shipments, learning about human resources, learning all the

stuff you need to know to be successful in this business... I like raising people up," Salvaggio added, a subtle echo of Schoolcraft's own motto, "Look Ever Upward." It's a motto both Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace and Schoolcraft College can pass onto future generations— together.

For more information on Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace, construction updates, and important events, visit the Schoolcraft Connection's website for additional stories at www.schoolcraftconnection.com.



A current view of the location where the future Nino Salvaggio International Marketplace will be built. (Photo by Jess Michael)

Culinary Arts student whips up a chance of a lifetime

Kristal Davis, competes for big prizes on Wheel of Fortune



Kristal Davis posing for a photo as a contestant on Wheel of Fortune. (Photo courtesy of Wheel of Fortune)

AMELIA CURTIS
STAFF WRITER

Although she didn't win the million dollars, it was a million-dollar experience according to Culinary Arts student Kristal Davis, who had a once in a lifetime opportunity to travel to Los Angeles, California to be a contestant on Wheel of Fortune this past summer. Wheel of Fortune is a popular American game show filled with chance, puzzles and for Davis, memories of a lifetime.

Davis has been a longtime fan of the show for over 20 years, watching every episode with my Grannies. Together they would watch Wheel of Fortune for the feeling of luck and chance, then watch Jeopardy after for the test of their knowledge. As she

got older, she joined the Wheel Watchers Club; a club that displayed the winners for each episode and statistics of each contestant.

One week she logged on to check if her wheel statues had won, it didn't. However, she noticed something peculiar at the bottom of her screen. It had asked her if she wanted to fill out a form to be a contestant. Davis filled out the information, not giving another ounce of thought to it.

Months passed, and at the end of February 2024 she received an email invitation to a group zoom interview in March.

"I felt discouraged, I was in the interview with around 25 other people, how could they choose between all of our personalities?" said Davis.

However, at the time she felt so much honor being even asked to interview it didn't phase her too much. They told the prospects not to get worried if she doesn't hear anything back for some time, for it could take up to a year to get recruited.

After the interview, Davis went on with her classes at Schoolcraft and significant time had passed. She had gotten so busy that she forgot she even went through with the interview.

Davis believed she had no chance to continue on to the next group.

One day in early August she looked down at her phone, to see an email from Wheel of Fortune. Davis opened it, and it read, "Congratulations Kristal!"

She remembers her heart leaping at that moment.

"It was the absolute best feeling I have ever felt in my life," said Davis. She recalled screaming at the top of her lungs.

Davis continued reading the email and they sent her three dates she could choose from: August 27, 28 or the 29th. The dates were soon, she didn't know how she was going to fit it in, but she knew she had to go.

Davis selected August 28 to attend and she bought her ticket and left.

She arrived on August 28 at 6 a.m.. Davis recalls the entire day as if it were a dream from

touring Universal Studios to being on set, she can recall it all very vividly. She felt like a movie star.

The show was filmed all day, went through practice and then the official broadcasting. It went by in a flash, but she would not trade the experience for anything.

Davis was able to see what goes into the real behind the scenes of Hollywood. Seeing what it was like to have real fame.

The show aired on television, October 14 nationwide. Now every time someone asks about her experience on Wheel of Fortune or even recognizes her, she feels so much joy and honor to be recognized.

"Even a smile from someone in the hallway makes me feel like a celebrity," said Davis. Being on the show was a once in a lifetime experience, which was a dream come true. From a young age she dreamt about being on the show, and she made it.



Illustrations by Luke Miller



Elevate your College experience

College to implement student relationship management system to better serve its students academic journey

ELVIS VELIU
CORRESPONDENT

The digital age is incredibly fast-paced, and this can make managing college life feel overwhelming, whether it be keeping up with course schedules, accessing resources or getting timely academic support. To help students manage this more effectively, Schoolcraft College will soon be implementing a powerful tool known as a Customer Relationship Management platform, which broadly describes platforms meant to bridge the gap between an audience and its engagement with resources - though here at Schoolcraft, we're adopting the terminology "Student Relationship Management" (SRM) to better reflect its purpose.

What is SRM and why does it matter?

SRM platforms are student-centric, and designed to streamline communication and services, helping you stay on top of things on your academic journey. With SRM, you'll receive personalized notifications about key deadlines, important events and academic opportunities that align with your goals. The platform will also increase the ease with which students can access resources like financial aid, tutoring services and advising - and all in one place.

By focusing on you - the student - SRM helps to create a supportive, personalized educational environment. From automating reminders about scholarship opportunities to providing tailored academic advice, SRM ensures you're equipped to succeed.

How will it affect you?

Enhanced Student Support: While SRM

isn't going to replace systems like Ocelot Access or Blackboard, it centralizes key information for staff working with students. This allows teachers, advisors and support teams to communicate with students more effectively, providing timely, tailored guidance so students receive focused support without additional platforms.

Proactive Outreach and Reminders: CRM sends timely reminders for key deadlines, like registration and financial aid, helping students stay organized and avoid missed opportunities.

Personalized Experience: Based on your academic profile and interests, SRM can recommend resources and support that match your specific needs - whether that be guidance on internships, study programs, or extracurriculars.

How can you get involved?

As part of the campaign led by our Phi Theta Kappa officer team, students will have the opportunity to help us shape the implementation of the SRM platform by responding to our survey.

We will be conducting this survey with the help of Schoolcraft's Institutional Research team, and we hope that in analyzing this data we can then use the feedback on our current system in hopes to improve the implementation of the new SRM platform.

Participants in the surveys will be entered for a chance to win one of 50 \$20 Schoolcraft Bookstore gift cards.

Follow PTK's social media accounts for more updates and announcements.

Why it's important to you

The purpose of implementing SRM is to enhance your experience at Schoolcraft, assisting you to not only stay in the loop, but also take full advantage of all the college has to offer. SRM is about making things easier, more connected and tailored to your academic success.

So, next time you hear about SRM, think of it as your personal assistant, helping you succeed in your academic endeavors.

Stay tuned for more info, and don't miss the chance to get involved in shaping the future of the Schoolcraft!

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CAMPUS LIFE

Combining fashion and sustainability

A new club emerges to explore the relationship between fashion and the environment

MICHELLE TORRES
STAFF WRITER

The Sustainable Fashion Club is one of the new opportunities the Schoolcraft campus offers to students who want to make an impact within the community.

The club provides a platform for students to learn more about their personal relationship with the environment through their fashion choices. It is meant to be a space in which students can discuss and determine the steps needed to take in order to reduce negative impacts on the planet, especially as the fast fashion industry continues to expand.

The club was founded this year by student Abel Thompson, who has a strong passion for fashion and is also dedicated to spreading awareness about environmental issues.

"I was raised in a house where my mom cared so deeply about the environ-



Illustrations by Caitlin Cherry



Students Abel Thompson and Zephyr Umahag look through clothing rack at local thrift store. (Photo by Michelle Edgerton)

ment. We always grew up thrifting instead of buying new clothes," he said. "As I got older, I started to realize not everyone views the world in that way, and that's something I felt I could share with other people," he continued.

Thompson decided establishing a Sustainable Fashion Club was not only a way to combine the two passions but also a place for the community to further access education and engage in diverse conversations.

"Hopefully, [students will] take it past the club and continue using [a] sustainable mindset while making their clothing choices, especially at the age college students are, there's a lot of experimentation with style," he said.

At the Sustainable Fashion Club, members are able to participate in a variety of activities. Notably, the club has discussion days in which students are able to talk about their unique experiences with fashion and the environment. Other meetings

involve upcycling days where members are able to transform old pieces of clothing into something that may better suit their style and comfort. Additionally, thrifting is also a focal point of the club.

The club has also planned various events for students to attend such as organizing a campus wide clothing swap event. People will be able to bring in old items of clothing as well as take others home.

Throughout the semester, students will be able to participate in field trips to hone sustainable skills and learn more about the relationship between fashion and the environment.

Thompson hopes for the club to be "a safe place to express yourself and learn about your impact on the world." It is an opportunity to meet more sustainable indi-

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viduals and further develop personal fashion.
Meetings take place on Mondays from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lower Level, Vistatech Center, Conference

Room E.
To join or learn more about the club, contact the Student Activities Office at 734-462-4422.



LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES
Success Starts Here



Alexia is the Service Desk lead. She takes care of the flow of people and keeps the office organized. She is the first and last face you see at the Learning Center.



Cayden is the STEM tutor lead. He primarily tutors math, accounting and Spanish.



Emily is the lead writing tutor. She covers writing classes, covering mostly all of the classes at Schoolcraft.

Learning Center Bradner Library L119
734-462-4436
lc@schoolcraft.edu

Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. ;
Friday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ; Saturdays: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Q: How can I benefit the most from the tutoring services?

A: My suggestion is that you plan a tutoring session as a time slot to your personal schedule, whether it is once or twice per week. In this way, you can work with us to review what you have learned during the week to help you consolidate your course knowledge step-by-step. We have abundant hours for a variety of subjects, so don't worry if your schedule is too tight.

Q: How do I know when there is a tutor available?

A: At the LC we have cards that contain a QR code on them that will take you to our weekly drop-in schedule, as well as a printed version on the wall. Another option will be finding it online. The steps to find our schedule online is look up schoolcraft.edu > type in "tutoring" into the search bar > tutoring > In person, Drop-In tutoring > Weekly drop-in tutoring Schedule.

Q: How do tutors help?

A: For any subject, our tutors will work with you on specific course materials. Whether it is a chapter homework or exam preparation, our tutors will help answer your questions through sharing their knowledge and practicing questions of the same topics with you. It is a quite easy-going and interactive experience.

Do you have questions related to the Learning Center or looking for tips from our leads? Complete the QR and they will be answered in the future edition.



Hands in clay, hearts in giving

Empty Bowl Luncheon set for December 5

JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Empty Bowl Luncheon will be held in the Wilson Room, outside Henry's Café, Thursday, Dec. 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Schoolcraft's food pantry.

In the fall semester of 2023, about 19 students used the food pantry. As the 2024 fall semester comes to a close, that number has increased to 55 students, highlighting the growing need on campus. Last year, the Empty Bowl Luncheon raised approximately \$3,000, and with demand rising rapidly, organizers are hopeful for an even larger turnout this year.

The Empty Bowl Luncheon has been a Schoolcraft tradition for decades, currently organized by Todd Stowell, Director of Student Activities. The event began in the early 2000's, to raise funds for a Catholic charity run by Sister Joan, who operated St. Leo's Soup Kitchen in Detroit. Schoolcraft students would volunteer their time to assist in the soup kitchen.

In 2011, it was decided to help Schoolcraft students better with an on-campus food pantry. Since then, proceeds from the Empty Bowl Luncheon have been used to keep the pantry stocked. Robert Bielat, the former ceramics professor at Schoolcraft from 2000 to 2015, was essential in helping raise funds for the cause. After Bielats' passing in 2018, his wife Veronica, established The Robert Bielat Memorial Scholarship, which is available to students who are in ceramics or in 3D sculpture.

Sophie Neslund, the current professor of



Patrons purchasing ceramic items at the Empty Bowl Luncheon. (Photo courtesy of Schoolcraft College)

the ceramics department, donates her time for the Empty Bowl Luncheon. Neslund involves students helping in the process of building and glazing bowls for the event..

Sherry Springer, a Schoolcraft graduate who fell in love with the college and worked as the Student Activities Coordinator until retirement in 2009. Springer was essential in helping establish the Empty Bowl Luncheon.

In addition to the Ceramics and the Student Activities Offices, the Culinary Operations department also has a necessary role in the charity. Each year, they provide a vegetable-based soup, along with a variety of bread.

Many attendees purchase bowls, created by students in the ceramics classes. After purchasing the bowls, patrons can grab some soup and enjoy your ceramic piece made by a Schoolcraft student. Each piece is priced by the Student Activities Office. Depending on how intricate and detailed the piece, prices range from \$10 - \$55. Typically these bowls are purchased as holiday gifts for family and friends. We hope to see you there!

Help us Erase Hunger Empty Bowl Luncheon

Proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry.

Thursday, December 5, 2024
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 and fresh baked bread donated by Schoolcraft Culinary Operations.



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

Student Employee Spotlight

Schoolcrafts' October Student Employee of the Month is Farah Nairoukh. Her role is working in the Admissions Center as a student assistant, located in the McDowell Center. Her department handles student enrollment, transfer student enrollment and dual enrollment. Nairoukh started working there at the end of April, early March of last year.

In her time working at the Admission

Center, Nairoukh has assisted with student applications, answers phone calls, organizes the office and helps students when they get locked out of their account. When asked what her favorite part of working at the admissions center was, she stated "I love the environment and the people I work with."

Nairoukh started at Schoolcraft two years ago, shortly after moving to the United States from Aman, Jordan. At School-

craft, she is working toward her associate degree, with hopes to transfer to Eastern Michigan University. Nairoukh wants to study Cyber Security and Coding. She explained how one of her favorite parts of working at the office is working with the computers, she feels as if it is preparing her for her future.



Photos by Alexis Morris

October Winner

Farah Nairoukh

Role: Student assistant at the Admissions Center

In recognition of outstanding service in student enrollment, transfer, and dual enrollment support. Congratulations on being our October winner!

Graphics by Andrew Husken.



Farah Nairoukh stands for a group photo for the admissions office.

On-Campus

DIGITAL JOB BOARD

(734)-462-4477 | STUDENTEMPLOYMENT@SCHOOLCRAFT.EDU

Schoolcraft College
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Looking for a job on campus?

SCAN HERE!

Illustration by Michelle Edgerton



CAMPUS & CLUB EVENTS

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

Pageturners Movie Screening of Quo Vadis Aida (2020)

November 19, 2024

12:00 p.m.

MC100 B&C

Join Pageturners for a Movie Screening of Quo Vadis Aida. Aida is a translator for the UN, in the small town of Srebrenica. When the Serbian army takes over the town, her family is among the thousands of citizens looking for shelter in the UN camp. As an insider to the negotiations, Aida has access to crucial information that she needs to interpret. What is on the horizon for her family and people – rescue or death? Which move should she take?

Movie Night: Forrest Gump

November 21, 2024

5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

Phi Theta Kappa and The Film Club present a movie night featuring Forrest Gump. Come watch one of the greatest movies of all time and stay for a discussion after. Refreshments will be provided.

The Future of Voting:

An introduction to ranked choice

November 21, 2024

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Vistatech Center, Kehrl Auditorium

Phi Theta Kappa and the Political Science Club will be hosting a speaker from Rank MI Vote, a grassroots bipartisan political organization dedicated to ranked choice voting. They will explain how ranked choice voting works and Rank MI Vote's future plans in Michigan.

Cultural Coffee Connection

November 25, 2024

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Bradner Library, L110

Students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to attend our upcoming events. Join us for coffee, tea and snacks. Enjoy an educational presentation at the beginning of each event and informal conversation with peers from various cultures around the world. For every event you attend, you will be entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of the semester.

Empty Bowl Luncheon

December 5, 2024

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Vistatech Center, Wilson Room next to Henry's

Purchase a hand crafted bowl created and donated by Schoolcraft ceramics students. All proceeds to benefit the Schoolcraft Food Pantry. Enjoy a bowl of hearty soup and fresh baked bread donated by the Schoolcraft Culinary Operations Department.

Turkey Bowl '24

November 27, 2024

11:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Inside the Trinity Health Sports Dome

Join the Flag Football Club and play some flag football games. Stay and have some pizza and refreshments after inside the Sports Dome Lobby.

Karaoke Party: Writers gone wild

December 2nd, 2024

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Lower Level, Vistatech Center

The International Student Organization and The Schoolcraft Connection invites you to a fun filled evening with Karaoke

and writer workshops featuring interviewing processes and writing template.

Clothing Swap
December 2nd, 2024
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Lower Level, Vistatech Center
Conference Room E

The Sustainable fashion club presents a clothing swap. Bring your gently used clothes and accessories. The more you donate the more you can take. All remaining items will be donated.

Bingo Night
December 4, 2024
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Lower Level, Vistatech Center
Join the Schoolcraft College Spirit Pro-

gram-Cheerleading team for our 2nd annual bingo night for an fun filled evening with great prizes, lively entertainment, delicious food, and plenty of surprises!

Otaku U All Ages
Anime Convention
December 7, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Vistatech Center
Registration Badge Prices: At the door \$10, pre-registration online is \$7 and \$5 for Children (anyone 10 and under).
(Presales will end at 11:59 p.m on December 6, 2024)
To purchase tickets go to: www.otakuu.org

Journey through the Cosmos with Space Pirates at the Junior Year of Schoolcraft's All Ages Anime Convention!
Attractions include: Vendor Hall, Anime

AMV Viewings, Cosplay Contest, A Tabletop Gaming Area Hosted by event sponsor: RIW Hobbies and Games, Video Gaming Play Lounge, Underground Dance Party, Panels and much more!

Winter Wonders Concert
December 16, 2024
7:30 p.m.
Vistatech Center, Diponio Room
Admission is free

The Schoolcraft Jazz Studies Program under the direction of Dr. Ricardo Selva presents a concert of Jazz featuring the talented instrumentalists and vocalists of The Jazz Ensemble, The Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and The Jazz Improvisation Combo. The repertoire for both large and small jazz groups will consist of traditional, contemporary, and holiday jazz arrangements.

WE PUT THE
COMMUNITY
IN COLLEGE

ATTEND EVENTS

CHECK OUT
THIS WEEK IN CAMPUS LIFE
FOR UPCOMING CAMPUS
EVENTS BY SCANNING
THE QR CODE

JOIN A CLUB

LOOKING TO
GET INVOLVED ON CAMPUS?
JOIN A CLUB TODAY BY
SCANNING THE QR CODE

LEADERS
GROW HERE.

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

WE'RE HIRING

NEW STUDENTS ARE WELCOME & ENCOURAGED TO JOIN!

- STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

- CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

- CONTENT MANAGER

- GRAPHIC DESIGNER

- SPORTS EDITOR

- STAFF WRITERS

- NEWS EDITOR

SCHOOLCRAFT
CONNECTION

CONTACT STUDENT ACTIVITIES AT 734-462-4422 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

FEELING
BORED?

Check out our
Diversions
on page 28
to brighten
your day and
cure your
boredom!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Blockbusters



and

Hidden Gems

The must-see movie releases coming soon

Cozy season is here, bringing an abundance of new films to explore. Check out some of these new hits at your local theater or drive in, and don't forget the popcorn!



Wicked

Release date: Nov. 22

Misunderstood because of her green skin, a young woman named Elphaba forges an unlikely but profound friendship with Glinda, a student with an unflinching desire for popularity. Following an encounter with the Wizard of Oz, their relationship soon reaches a crossroad as their lives begin to take very different paths.



Kraven The Hunter

Release date: Dec. 13

Kraven's complex relationship with his ruthless father starts him down a path of vengeance, motivating him to become not only the greatest hunter in the world, but also one of its most feared.



Gladiator II

Release Nov. 22

Years after witnessing the death of Maximus at the hands of his uncle, Lucius must enter the Colosseum after the powerful emperors of Rome conquer his home. With rage in his heart and the future of his empire at stake, he looks to the past to find the strength and honor needed to return the glory of Rome to its people.



The Lord of the Rings: The War of Rohirrim

Release date: Dec. 13

A sudden attack by Wulf, a ruthless Dunlending lord, forces Helm Hammerhand and his people to make a daring last stand in the ancient stronghold of the Hornburg. Finding herself in an increasingly desperate situation, Helm's daughter, Héra, must lead the resistance against a deadly enemy whose intent is total destruction.



Moana 2

Release Nov. 27

Moana 2 reunites Moana and Maui three years later for an expansive new voyage alongside a crew of unlikely seafarers.



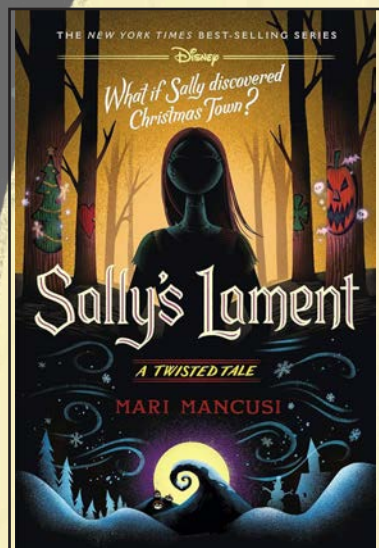
Mufasa: The Lion King

Release date: Dec. 20

Lost and alone, orphaned cub Mufasa meets a sympathetic lion named Taka, the heir to a royal bloodline. The chance meeting sets in motion an expansive journey of an extraordinary group of misfits searching for their destinies.

Halloween Town revived in a new twisted tale

What if Sally discovered Christmas Town instead?



"Sally's Lament: A Twisted Tale"

By: Mari Mancusi

Genre: Young Adult, Fantasy, Fiction and Romance

Available in: Hardcover, eBook, Google Play Books and Audiobook

First Published: Oct. 8, 2024

Rating: 9.5 / 10 stars



ELIZABETH LUX
MANAGING EDITOR

Embrace the gloomy nostalgia of the iconic Halloween Town, as author Mari Mancusi expertly entrances readers with a brand-new scare that is no walk in the graveyard!

Starring beloved Pumpkin King Jack Skellington and fan favorite Sally the rag doll, the pair take on a refreshing and spook-tacular twist from the original film "The Nightmare Before Christmas": What if Sally had discovered Christmas Town?

"Sally's Lament: A Twisted Tale" follows the perspective of Sally instead of Jack, in sync with the beginning of the original story. Sally is enjoying the festivities of a successful Halloween night, wondering how she could further contribute to the

celebration. After her iconic meeting with Skellington in the cemetery, Sally falls from atop Spiral Hill and experiences her first vision. This vision sets the plot's tone, as it brings forth the first of many mysteries that come alive during the story.

The plot twists further when Sally, like Skellington, is led by Zero through the Hinterlands to discover the door to Christmas Town. Fans will relish in Sally's own "What's This?" scene, also reminiscent of Skellington's in the film. When Sally discovers Christmas Town, her visit is eerily "nice." Knowing something sinister is "jingling" around town, Sally returns home to tell Skellington all about the mysterious trip she had. In a heroic turn of events, Sally must enlist the help of

Skellington to save Christmas Town and help some delightful new friends find their forever homes.

Mancusi does a breath-taking job at recapturing every essence of the beloved original story, while carefully presenting new elements that feel as authentic as the original. The story naturally drifts away from a retelling of the movie into Sally's own story, beautifully highlighting the depth of her character. This novel maintains a creepy tone, despite being in the delightful Christmas Town.

Readers are constantly suspicious of each new scene and character introduced, while also keeping a close eye on some of their favorites.

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Several Chapters also end with perfect and exciting hooks that leave the reader with an insatiable desire to learn what happens next.

Fans will enjoy the return of some of Halloween Town's scariest monsters like the Clown with the Tear Away Face, Corpse Kid and the Witches. Lock, Shock, and Barrel also make terrifying appearances that are sure to scare a smile to your face.

Fans will also adore the descriptions of the characters, Halloween Town and Mancusi's spooky illustration of Spiral Hill and the cemetery. Equally noteworthy is Mancusi's description of Christmas Town, which is sure to keep visions of sugar plums dancing in readers' heads.

Stealing the show is everyone's favorite ghost dog, Zero. He's not only cute, but also clever and wise. From leading Santa's reindeer to rescuing the Halloween Town heroes, Zero shines as bright as his nose as the story's real hero.

Mr. Jingle makes it into the books as one of the most terrifying villains to curse novel pages, as he brings shattering nightmares into a holiday that should only have innocence and joy. Specifically, his sinister taunting of Sally in chapter eight may make some readers notably uncomfortable.

The mysteries are fun to follow along with. If readers are paying attention to the intricate details, they will be able to easily piece together some of the clues. Among the dark elements of the plot are the complicated topics of love, kidnapping, spying and false imprisonment.

Despite this, the ending is sure to leave you in heartwarming tears. While slightly predictable, it is surely the ending readers will hope for.

Overall, this novel is a fun, exciting and mysterious twist on the original story. It truly examines how the story would have played out, had Sally been the one to discover Christmas town instead of Jack. It contained a moderate amount of filler, was only slightly predictable and heartwarming for almost all characters involved.

This novel rightfully earns a 9.5 out of 10 pumpkins for the bone-chilling mysteries, engaging and immersive storyline and its honorable tribute to the original. Pick up this breathtaking novel and see what is next for "Jack the Pumpkin King" and "Scary Sally the doll."

SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE

**NOVEMBER 8TH -
DECEMBER 9TH**

Location drop off: Lower Vistatech center
in the student activity office

All proceeds will go towards making care
packages for international students holiday
season!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Schoolcraft College

PHI THETA KAPPA AND THE POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB PRESENTS

THE FUTURE OF VOTING: AN INTRODUCTION TO RANKED CHOICE

RANK MI VOTE

**November 21, 2024
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Vistatech Center, Kehl Auditorium

Phi Theta Kappa and the Political Science Club will be hosting a speaker from Rank MI Vote, a grassroots bipartisan political organization dedicated to ranked choice voting. They will explain how ranked choice voting works and Rank MI Vote's future plans in Michigan.

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

Schoolcraft College

STUDENT ACTIVITIES



BALLIN' ON A BUDGET

How to have a sustainable holiday season without breaking the bank!

Tis' the season to thrift and gift. We produce over 90 million tons of clothing and textile waste every single year. That doesn't include the home and outdoor decor that also gets tossed. As overconsumption grows, thrift and antique stores are filling up at unheard of rates. Are you tired of the same old holiday and winter shopping routines? This year, we've put together the ultimate guide to all things shopping second hand in the fall and winter. Whether you're decorating your home, in search of some high quality pieces for your wardrobe, or looking for a top notch gift, our guide has an idea for you!



Are you looking for a fun winter home decor piece? Look no further! Many local thrift shops are fully stocked on these goods. Many pieces can be purchased for well under \$10.



Gifting second hand is a creative and low-cost option! You may choose to grab a basket and fill it with your friend's favorite vintage decor or clothing. Not only will the pieces be unique, but they also help to keep quality goods out of the landfill. You may also choose to mix and match store bought goods with second hand goods!



Early 2000s knit pieces are oftentimes made of wool and other warm materials. This Abercrombie and Fitch sweater cost approximately \$60 retail. It was scored for just \$2.50 at a local thrift shop.



Graphics by Megan Edgerton

Drink your hot chocolate in vintage holiday style with these 1980/90s mugs. Mugs are donated in mass quantities and can be found at a dime a dozen this season. (\$0.25-5.00) Your holiday feast could not be complete without proper cookware. Bonus: dutch ovens, pots, pans, and even complete table settings are donated before they've even been used. Set your holiday table in style this season without breaking the bank!





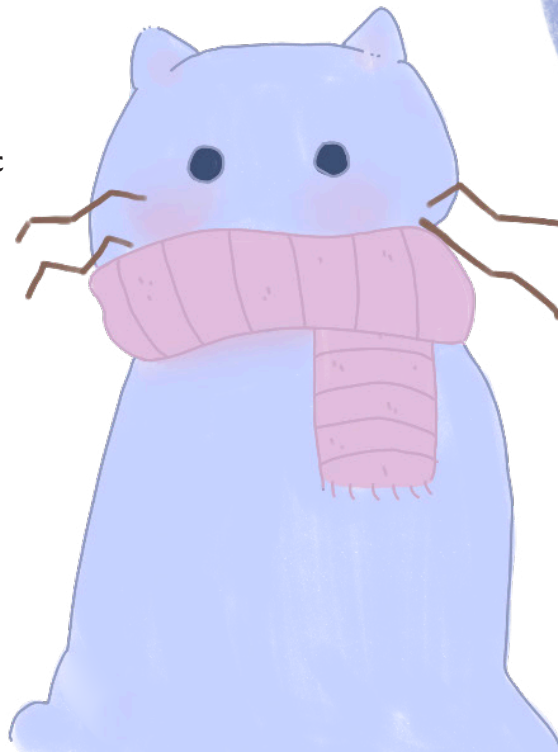
Did you get invited to a last minute ugly Christmas sweater contest? Run to your nearest resale shop for some funny and affordable finds.



Every week, thrift stores hold a tag sale. This event not only makes items more affordable and accessible but also promotes their sale and helps keep them out of landfills.



New with tags items are a great option for newbies who may be easing into the idea of second hand goods. Oftentimes these items are sold at well below retail price. This Jack Georges bag is originally \$100+ but was found locally for \$5.



Where to shop:

- Motown (located at 8050 Middlebelt Rd, Westland, MI 48185)
- Antique shops such as Craftique which is in Garden City (5846 Middlebelt Rd, Garden City, MI 48135)
- Plato's Closet in Novi (43626 W. Oaks Dr, Novi, MI 48377)

These places are the perfect places to shop second hand this season. Oftentimes, you may find new with tags items as well as very gently used pieces to choose from.



A Gritty FairyTale

The Wolf Among Us: Is A Noir Of Fear and Fantasy Made Into A FairyTale

NOAH MOORE
STAFF WRITER

"The Wolf Among Us" pulls the players into a dark, twisted world of familiar fairy tale characters, such as Snow White from Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs voiced by Erin Yvette. Colin the pig from The Three Little Pigs voiced by Brian Sommer. Belle from Beauty and Beast voiced by Melissa Hutchison and Beast voiced by Gravin Hammon.

From the moment the player steps into Fabletown, the player will notice the stunning noir graphics, set up the tone of a gripping and often said by players a brutal journey.

Telltale Games, the creators behind this jaw-dropping game, deliver a master-class in storytelling. Blending interactive elements with cinematic choices that will challenge every choice the player makes throughout the game. The game starts by showing the main character, Sheriff Bigby, voiced by Adam Harrington, as the protector of Fabletown.

The player can notice by looking at Bigby that he is wearing a white dress shirt with a loose tie that is not tied up all the way. While looking

the player can see the noir atmosphere and graphics of New York City showing the shadows and shading of the city being more like a comic-book style. When getting out of a taxi, you will enter an old, withered apartment across from them. Upon entering the apartment complex they will be greeted by a ragged clothed frog.

Mr. Toad, voiced by Chuck Kourouklis, is the fable that contacts you about the problem. Something to notice about Toad is that he is not a human, this is because he is not wearing glamour to hint that he is a fable. Glamour is a spell that allows characters to change their appearance, allowing them to pass through mundies which are non-fable people. While talking to Toad the player is given four different choices that can impact the story, and affect your relationship with him, these choices can affect your relationship with other characters that you will meet along the way.

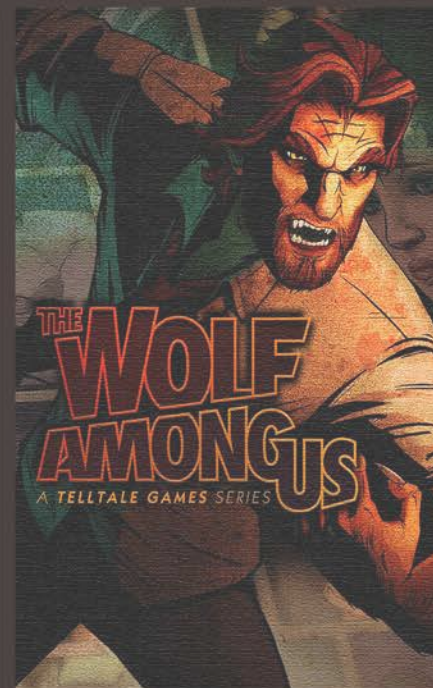
Mechanics within the game are quick-time events where the player must click a button repeatedly or click on a button that shows up to make an action.

The game not only has

interesting game mechanics, but it's also a fascinating story. Players dive into investigating and uncovering a killer that has been killing fables.

What's unique about the story is that it's split into five episodes. This unique storytelling will leave gamers on a cliffhanger after every episode. Allowing the setting up for the plot for the next episode. However, it leaves you questioning what will happen next!

Overall, The Wolf Among Us delivers a gripping, dark narrative that will keep the players hooked from start to finish. With its marvelous storytelling and strong character development that the player will experience, it will be hard to pass up this game when you are trying to find out what to play next.



"The Wolf Among Us"

Genres: Action game, Graphic Adventure Game, Interactive film, Casual game

Platforms: PlayStation 4, Playstation 3, Xbox One, Xbox 360, PC, Mac

Mode: Singleplayer

Initial Release Date: October 11, 2013

Developers: Telltale Games

Rating: 9 / 10



SARA'S CORNER

Impressed:
I find myself at my worst in a sheltered cage
Made from bubble wrap and packing peanuts
Are you impressed with the death of a Midwest princess?

If you aren't impressed with the best I have
I'm going to need you to take a stand
And run to the door
Because I'm a collection of the people and places
That let me call them home before

I find my worst defeat at the hand of my own heart
Made from silicon and shattered dreams
Are you impressed with the death of an East Coast Queen?


If you aren't impressed with the best I have
I'm going to need you to take a stand
And run to the door
Because I'm a collection of the people and places
That knew me before

Before I gave up on growing up and began growing old
Before I found every street that took me home
Before my mothers tears
Before my fathers pain
Before the death of a West Coast King

If you aren't impressed with the best I have
I'm going to need you to take a stand
And run to the door
Because I'm a collection of the people and places
That know me now

Know my life as a Midwest Princess
As an East Coast Queen
As an West Coast King
But as I have grown old instead of growing up
I have found that fundamentally

The people who know me best are impressed with me
It may be my worst
It may be my best
But at the end
They are impressed



International Student Organization and
SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION
PRESENTS:




Karaoke Party

WRITERS GONE WILD

MONDAY DECEMBER 2ND
5PM TO 8PM
LOWER LEVEL, VISTATECH CENTER

The Schoolcraft Connection is hosting a fun filled evening with Karaoke and writer workshops featuring interviewing processes and writing template.

Food and Bererages will be provided





ARE YOU IN NEED OF FOOD ASSISTANCE?

Register to use the Student Food Pantry to pick up two bags of groceries per month



SCAN ME

Either scan the QR Code to the left and fill out the "intake form" or stop by the Student Activities Office in the Lower Level of the Vistatech Center and fill out an "intake form" in person for use of the SC Student Food Pantry.

The College's food pantry is open to all members of the campus community. We are committed to addressing hunger and food insecurity issues on campus.



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




THE SCHOOLCRAFT STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICE & CAMPUS RECREATION PRESENTS

TURKEY BOWL²⁴

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
NOON-3:00 P.M.
INSIDE THE TRINITY HEALTH SPORTS DOME
MEET AT 11:30 A.M. TO SELECT TEAMS

Join the Flag Football Club and play some flag football games. Stay have have some pizza and refreshments after inside the Sports Dome Lobby.

*Liability waivers must be signed before playing.







Leadership and vision

Men's Basketball Head Coach EJ Haralson prepares his team on and off the court

SHIN NAKAMURA
SPORTS EDITOR

The success of every great team has a greater leader. Former New England Patriots Coach Bill Belichick led Tom Brady and the team to 9 Superbowl games, with 6 wins. Players like LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Shaquille O'Neal listened to coach Jerry West to build the dynasty that is the Los Angeles Lakers.

What about the men's basketball team for Schoolcraft?

Meet Coach EJ Haralson, a coach, and a former player, who wants to give back to the community.

Coach Haralson, a former basketball player, decided to become a coach as he "wanted to do the same thing his coaches did for him when he was a player" as he pays it forward, investing in the players.

Prior to being named the Head Coach at Schoolcraft, Haralson spent 19 years, serving various roles, including Interim Head Coach, at Wayne State University. Prior to Wayne State, Haralson was a coach at Finney High School for 4 years, spending the first

two as an assistant and the last two as the head coach. As head coach, Finney won the first Public School League title in school history to go along with a district and regional championship. In the 2002-03 season, Haralson was named the Detroit Public School League Coach of the Year and was awarded the FHS Outstanding Achievement Award. He had five seniors move on to play collegiate basketball.

The third year coach focuses on instilling confidence within his players. He builds structured work ethics and pushes every player to bet on themselves, forces his young players to understand hard work, education, and working together to accomplish their goals.

A strong foundation is key for the Ocelots. The team starts their practices with stretches followed by basic skill warm-ups and daily workouts to train their body.

Haralson heavily wants the players to build the foundation, focusing on widening their offensive and defensive philosophy. He wants the players to "put themselves out there to be a good team."

Freshman Andrew Kim-



Schoolcraft Men's Basketball Head Coach EJ Haralson talks to his player during a time out. Haralson is entering his third year as head coach and focuses on instilling confidence within his players. Courtesy of Schoolcraft College.

brough understands the expectations of his coach. Kimbrough dedicates his time working hard at the gym to make Haralson proud. That's one of the reasons why he chose Schoolcraft.

"Coach Haralson cares about the players, and wants the best out of every player," said Kimbrough about how much his coach invests in his players.

Haralson's biggest core value is working hard. He pushes his players to work hard on the court, in the gym, in school, at home, everything in life. "I encourage my players to work as hard as you possibly can, because you don't know where your next opportunity's gonna come from."

Another core value is being grateful for the now. Haralson always reminds his players that, as well as

to treat each other the way you want to be treated. With these two key principles, he creates a mutual respect between player and coach and starts a deeper relationship between person to person.

Haralson cares about his players both on and off the court. He emphasizes his team's academic success above everything else.

Haralson knows the importance of academics comes first. "No matter how good you are at basketball, if you don't have the academics, none of your goals will be accomplished, because academics will last longer than basketball skills," said Haralson.

See 'Leadership and vision'
page 21>

'Leadership and vision'

cont'd from page 20>

son.

Sophomore Kechan Johnson cares about his academics. His dream job is to become a principal, just like his parents. Johnson's advice for the first year players is to keep working hard with coach and perform better. "You don't know who's watching you," said Johnson.

Every season is a journey. There will be accomplishments and setbacks. Haralson helps his players identify the problems so they can learn from them. Haralson and the players view past tape recordings on their practice and games and use that as a tool to elevate the team's performance.

He enjoys waking up everyday, coming to Schoolcraft and practicing as a team

and teaching the game of basketball to his players.

Sophomore player Marshall Thorn aims to "make every opportunity count this season." This year, he is focused on scoring more and working on communicating better with coaches and teammates. Thorn appreciates his coach for giving him an opportunity to play at Schoolcraft. "Coach Haralson is the best coach he's ever had," said Thorn.

Following his first year's record of 2-22, in his first full offseason cycle, Haralson and the Ocelots improved their record to 14-15, including a berth into the Great Lakes District C Tournament in 2022-23. In 2024-25, Haralson was well on his way to building back the program and taking the program to new heights in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

For more game schedules, rosters and up to date information, go to www.schoolcraftocelots.com.


"I encourage my players to work as hard as you possibly can, because you don't know where your next opportunity's gonna come from."

-EJ Haralson
Men's Basketball Head Coach

SPORTS

SCHEDULE

Hockey



NOV 15 (FRI)
7:35 PM EST
VS PURDUE NORTHWEST
Mike Modano Ice Arena

NOV 16 (SAT)
7:00 PM EST
AT PURDUE NORTHWEST

DEC 06 (FRI)
8:55 PM EST
AT OAKLAND (D1)

DEC 07 (SAT)
3:05 PM EST
VS OAKLAND (D1)
Mike Modano Ice Arena

DEC 13 (FRI)
7:35 PM EST
VS SAGINAW VALLEY (D1)
Mike Modano Ice Arena

DEC 14 (SAT)
9:30 PM EST
AT SAGINAW VALLEY (D1)



*Time and location are subject to change

MEN'S BASKETBALL

NOV 22 (FRI)
7:00 PM EST
VS KALAMAZOO VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NOV 23 (SAT)
12:00 PM EST
VS LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NOV 26 (TUE)
7:00 PM EST
VS LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DEC 02 (MON)
7:00 PM EST
VS HOCKING COLLEGE

DEC 04 (WED)
7:00 PM EST
AT VINNENNES UNIVERSITY

DEC 12 (THU)
7:30 PM EST
AT DELTA COLLEGE

DEC 18 (WED)
7:30 PM EST
VS EDISON STATE

DEC 21 (SAT)
3:00 PM EST
VS SUNY NIAGARA

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

NOV 26 (TUE)
5:00 PM EST
VS LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DEC 02 (MON)
5:00 PM EST
VS HOCKING COLLEGE

DEC 07 (SAT)
1:00 PM EST
VS DELTA COLLEGE

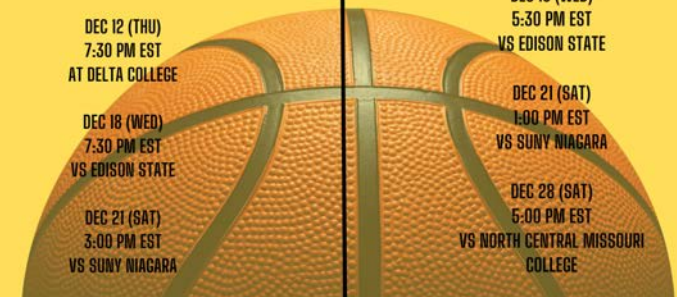
DEC 12 (THU)
5:30 PM EST
AT DELTA COLLEGE

DEC 14 (SAT)
1:00 PM EST
VS PARKLAND COLLEGE

DEC 18 (WED)
5:30 PM EST
VS EDISON STATE

DEC 21 (SAT)
1:00 PM EST
VS SUNY NIAGARA

DEC 28 (SAT)
5:00 PM EST
VS NORTH CENTRAL MISSOURI COLLEGE



The heart of a runner

Noah Walters demonstrates endurance beyond the finish line

JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



For the second straight year, Cross Country runner, Noah Walters, qualified for Nationals. Representing Schoolcraft Walters, traveled to Richmond, Virginia on Nov. 9 to compete in the NJCAA Division II Cross Country Championship.. Walters finished in 72 out of 317 competitors with an overall time of 27:27. He qualified for Nationals after placing 13th in the NJCAA Region XII Championships on Oct. 25 with a time of 26:42.9.

Accomplishments like this didn't happen overnight. Over the past several months Walters has been preparing mentally and physically with a strict diet and training regiment. Cross-country is a long-distance running sport, and training for it isn't simply about running several miles every day. Each day's workout is different. In Swedish terms, "fartlek" means "speed play"—running at different speeds over many miles.

When Walters began training with his coach, Tobin Jones, he started at 45-50 miles per week. Jones didn't want to risk injuring Walters, as high school cross-country is not as rigorous as the higher levels of the sport. Jones eventually worked him up to 70 miles per week, 6 days a week, around 12 miles per day.

"There is nothing he [Walters] doesn't do. Once he heads in a direction he has the self motivation to stay focused," said Jones.

Jones continued, noting that Walters is a very disciplined athlete and has become a part of Jones's family.

During interviews with both Jones and Walters, they were quick to compliment each other, sharing how much they appreciate one another.

"Tobin [Jones] is such a great coach," said Walters. He added about how they have become like family. "Runners understand each other; it's a community," said Walters.

During high school Walters was a multi-sport athlete competing in tennis, swimming, cross country, baseball and even earned his black belt in karate.

When covid hit, tennis was dropped and Walters was invited by a friend to try cross country. He fell in love with running and began searching for a college with a cross country team.

Walters caught the runner's sickness and Jones puts it. "You're a sick man Noah[Walters,] I like you" said Jones. He added that the transition from high school to college-level running was tough for Walters, but Walters holds himself accountable, even without a team. Walters is a tremendous ambassador for Schoolcraft's cross country team and gets along with everyone he encounters. His junior collegiate career is over and he is set to graduate this spring however he is far from slowing down. His passion for running continues to grow and he is looking forward to new challenges. Jones is training Walters to run for a marathon, —approximately 26.2 miles. To prepare for the marathon Jones will have Walters run in several half marathons and increase his training miles per week.

He continues to serve as a spokesperson for the sport, demonstrating that crossing the finish line marks the start of a new adventure rather than its conclusion.

Photo courtesy of Schoolcraft College



LEARN MORE



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Earn your degree faster and more affordably through our special partnership with Schoolcraft College. This partnership offers a unique combination of Schoolcraft College and Ferris courses in Livonia or online, making Ferris accessible for students like you.

With full access to the Detroit Hub, you'll have all the support services you need to earn your Ferris degree locally and achieve your career goals.

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LIVONIA

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SCHOOLCRAFT CONNECTION

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THE COLLECTIVE PEN

Connection companions



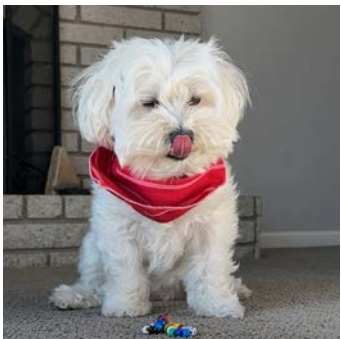
From land to sea, there are plenty of pets that could use a loving home. Pets can make wonderful additions to any family, contributing unconditional love and a lifetime of memories. Here at the Connection, the Editorial Staff would like to share with you some of the pets that have stolen our hearts.



SHIN- When I was 12 years young, I had a pet goldfish. I was at a festival near my house, and there was an activity to scoop up goldfishes with paper nets. I miraculously scooped one up, and made it my own. I used to watch

it swim around the unfiltered fish bowl. It died 10 days later, but the memories I had with it are forever.

AMELIA- As a child my siblings and I have always wanted a dog. We have had numerous hamsters and fish that we loved. However, we always felt like a part of our family was missing. After we moved out of our old house we had more room to add another member to our family. My parents searched for the perfect dog that



See "The collective pen" page 25>

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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
Campus center

'The collective pen'

cont'd from page 24>

was both comforting and cute. We found a breed we really liked, the Maltese toy Poodle, it was a perfect match! We soon found a breeder and picked out our new puppy. After picking her out, we debated on a name, we finally all landed on Paisley and it was the best match. We have had her for 8 years and she is still a fluff ball!

PILI- I've been a cat person my whole life, so when the time came to adopt my first pet, there was no doubt in my mind that it had to be a cat. I was fifteen when we adopted Lottie; a friend of my parents rescued her, and as soon as my mom saw her, she knew she was part of our family. As she got older, we wanted to give her



a companion and that's when we adopted Uma. Both of them live in my home country, and I miss them so bad.

When I moved to America, my host family adopted two cats, who are siblings; Lilo and Stitch. They are my world, and as I call them, my shadows, because they follow me everywhere, even to the bathroom. I love them so much; they are my world.



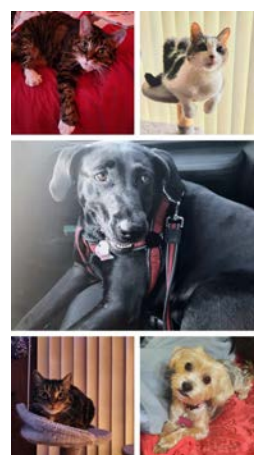
IZZY- My childhood dog, Lucy was adopted from the Huron Valley Humane Society. She was the best girl and loved to lay with my sister and I while we played "tea party".

ALEXIS- For my entire life I have always had a pet dog. Jodee who was a schnauzer and Taylor who was a mini australian shep-

herd were my childhood dogs. In August of 2023 my family made the crazy decision to adopt a dog from the Huron Valley Humane Society. We planned on just visiting to play with some dogs and donate blankets. Little did we know we were bringing one home. We waited for over two hours for the doors to open. We walked through the entire society visiting each dog one by one to give them some love when suddenly we met a special dog. Her name was Alcott. Knowing that other families wanted her too, we decided to adopt her. After bringing her home we realized that her name didn't really suit her so after many conversations we decided Dakota was the perfect name. She is a great addition to our family. Dakota absolutely loves her tennis balls, going on walks, taking naps, and laying on the couch to watch football.



ELIZABETH- Ever since I was a child, I had always loved animals. I had several bunnies and guinea pigs, until I hit high school when we got the first of our current furry family of five. We adopted our first two cats, Mischief and Mayhem, from an event hosted at a local pet shelter by local foster homes. Then, after graduating, I adopted Honey Bun from my uncle who could no longer care for her. About a year after that, we adopted our "little" cat Tinkerbelle from a neighbor who took in her pregnant mother. Three years later, our family grew with the adoption of my parent's dog, "little" Ember from a family friend. During our adventures together, everyone has

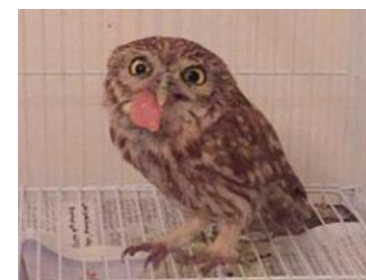


brought an immeasurable amount of love and joy to our family. They have captured a special place in our hearts that we will cherish forever.

JESS- Since I was little I have always had a deep love for animals. My first pet ever was a hamster named Pinky, after the cartoon, Pinky and the Brain. Now I have five pets. Pepperoni is our rescued bearded dragon, Titan our rescued pittie who is a large couch potato, and our four adored and mischievous cats, Rhy Rhy, Atlas, Boots, and Nyx. We are big on adopting and not shopping, each of our animals has been a rescue and is a big part of our family.



TALA- My favorite animal since I was a kid was an owl. Never in my life did I think that I would have one as a pet... but luckily, around my birthday in 2016, one of my dad's clients was a wild animal rescuer and told him that he is looking for someone to adopt this baby owl. Without hesitation, my father did all the paperwork and surprised me on my birthday with Spot! I named her Spot because she was covered in white spots! My favorite activity to do with her was dancing! Everytime I played music, Spot would start bumping to the music and we would dance together! Unfortunately Spot passed away two years later, she will forever be my family's favorite pet!



OPINIONS

Open heart, open mind

What are the processes international students go through?

JESS MICHAEL
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I never thought that when I came to Schoolcraft in the Fall of 2023, I would be learning much more than academics.

As we all know, there are hundreds of international students on Schoolcraft's campus; we are classmates, colleagues and genuine friends. However, as Americans, do we really know what international students go through to get here?

With the elections ending and constant misinformation/disinformation circulating throughout social media, news and other platforms, I think there is something that needs to be brought to the forefront and that is the lack of understanding of America's immigration policies.

I certainly can say I don't remember learning about the hundreds of visas there are to immigrate to America. Sitting in the Schoolcraft Connection's newsroom, a conversation between myself and two other staff members began. They began to explain to me the expenses that go into applying for your F1, student visa, and the intricacies of filling out the extensive paperwork. The amount of money that is put into applying without even having approval in the first place. Along with providing proof that you will have a place to live, and can take care of yourself financially.

My mind was blown, not only at the astounding amount of money it costs to remain in America but the process in which they had to go through to remain here to obtain their education.

I gently ask, as this topic can be a huge issue for many. Please read this with an open mind and open heart. For we are all human; take this opportunity to understand a difference in perspective. To be transparent, I am only speaking about international students in this column which is an F1 visa; there are over 180

different types of visas available.

I sat down with Laura Lavoie Leshok, Director and Advisor of the International student office and PDSO, Principal Designated School Official; and Kayla Lahiff, International Student Advisor and DSO, Designated School Official. Their roles and responsibilities are many, but one role for both staffers is to help students with their paperwork such as their visas.

Both are academic advisors for international students and help prepare the students for the transition to Michigan.

"We will do pre arrival webinars to help the students set expectations for school and climate," said Leshok. Leshok continues that some are used to access public transportation and here in Livonia, it doesn't exist. So figuring out transportation to get to school or anywhere can be extremely difficult. Some students will ride their bikes in the winter to campus even in unfavorable conditions..

International students are not eligible for many scholarships, they have to take twelve credits per semester and are restricted to only working on campus and 20 hours per week. Some students, even with the best prepared plan, have to question their housing situation.

International students face adversity when it comes to housing, not all countries have a credit score system. Though some landlords will overlook that, they will require six months worth of rent in advance, or have cosigners and six months of rent.

Many may not know that international students bring billions of dollars into the American economy, according to nafsa.org. In 2022 they contributed 1.3 billion dollars just to the Michigan economy. Lahiff explains that these students don't receive financial aid and they pay international fees, which is \$270 per credit hour. This is an astounding increase compared to an in district resident, which pays \$139 per credit hour.

So much goes into being an international student there and there is another layer that needs to be addressed.

"There is a huge misconception that anyone who doesn't look like us three [gestures to myself, Lahiff and herself Lashok] is an international student and that's not the case," said Leshok.

There can be misunderstandings that some international students came to America illegally. When the reality is, there are so many steps to coming to America to study. Potential students have to be interviewed by the embassy or consulate, Lahiff clarifies. She continues to explain that some people don't choose to have no papers. However, some do not choose to even be, their parents choose to come to America with no documentation and potential students have no idea until they attempt to enroll. Living in America with no documentation is extremely restrictive and can hinder a student's academic growth.

Imagine having the dream of coming to America, taping a map of the entire United States to your ceiling giving yourself the goal of coming here to study but met with consistent adversity.

American students take for granted the system that we are a part of already, unknowing the hardships others face to make their dreams come true. Instead I believe that we should be making friends and learning from those who are not from America. There is so much tradition and culture we don't know about.

The Schoolcraft Connection is holding a bottle and can drive to raise money for international students, we will use the funds to purchase hand and feet warmers, hygiene products.

Please look for the bins around campus with our fliers. Our drive runs now through Dec 9.

Ocelot Opinions

What are you grateful for about your pets?



Illustrations and layout by Caitlin Cherry

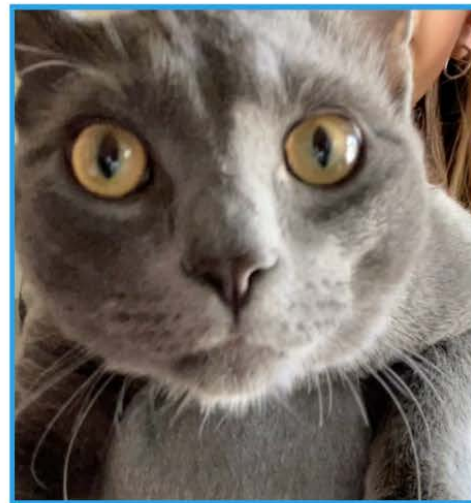
INTERVIEW BY KIM HALL
STAFF WRITER

Welcome back Ocelots! Thanks for checking back in for this week's Ocelot Opinions. For this issue, we asked students about how much they appreciate their pets. Let's hear their paw-some responses!



My dog is just like really happy all the time. Like when you come home, she's really happy to see you, and she'll jump on you. She's cute and fun to play with, and yeah, I love my dog.

Nick Neil
Major: Environmental Science



"I have a gray cat. I love when he comes to sleep with me at night, when he purrs, and how he's just like always there. We have a strong bond and I like playing with him outside."

Bella Randazzo
Major: General Studies



I have a cat, his name is Charlie. What I'm most grateful for about him is that he's just a little guy. He's just a lone man, does what he wants. He's very vocal, very energetic.

Gavin Sibi
Major: Mechanical Engineering



My pets help relieve my stress levels. Specifically, them just being around the house, you know, or playing out in the backyard with the ball and stuff. They help a lot.

David Fox
Major: Sound Recording Technology

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



DIVERSIONS

Find Answers on Page 31!

Crossword made by the Schoolcraft Linguistics Club



1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16					17			
18			19						20			
	21				22	23	24	25				
	26				27							
	28			29						30	31	
			32						33			
34	35	36							37			
38								39				40
41				42	43	44	45			46		
47				48						49		
50				51						52		

ACROSS

- 1 from _____ z (2 words)
- 4 adores, NOT a B-52's hit ****
- 9 noises elicited by baby animals
- 12 DC charity for low-income homes
- 13 taps the app icon
- 14 local museum that offers free gallery drawing nights
- 15 typo so common some chatters use it on purpose
- 16 see how the _____ lives (2 words)
- 18 argument ending: "_____ my case." (2 words)
- 20 stare greedily
- 21 ___-de-France, region containing Paris
- 22 easy; lacking strife
- 26 special characters access key for Windows
- 27 pungent
- 28 maize rafters, NOT a stippled paint job **** (2 words)

- 32 "like _____ of elephants" (2 words)
- 33 aye's opponent
- 34 total – fiber = ? (2 words)
- 35 channel home to Steve Harvey and Pat Sajak (abbr.)
- 37 date palm liquor
- 38 acquire, as with fees
- 41 capable of light refraction
- 46 "that" as it applies to "una escuela"
- 47 gamer jargon for awesome, often followed by "champ"
- 48 quit kneeling
- 49 classic Legend of Zelda console (abbr.)
- 50 a period of time
- 51 ambulance, perhaps, NOT for ramming others **** (2 words)
- 52 1/3 tbsp (abbr.)


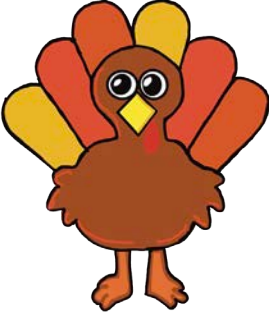

Theme clues are marked with: ****

'Sound Off Crossword'

cont'd from page 28>



DOWN

- 1 firmly against
- 2 historic cure-all
- 3 titular victim of Iago's machinations
- 4 plunder
- 5 decide
- 6 reason for a visit to the SOS (abbr.)
- 7 away from WSW (abbr.)
- 8 Russia, formerly (abbr.)
- 9 "Haste makes waste," for one
- 10 manifests
- 11 vaults
- 17 gripping the 14th letter, NOT a stagnant state **** (2 words)
- 19 RR headed southeast, NOT a fudgy ice cream flavor **** (2 words)
- 22 FitnessGram _____ test
- 23 cuthlessly witty
- 24 crocuses
- 25 Zilch
- 29 New Deal bill that refused to insure Black homes (abbr.)
- 30 born yesterday?
- 31 like Rosa, Equus, and Homo
- 34 ½ cone in geometry
- 35 404, for example
- 36 Siberian forest biome
- 39 one who writes "Happy Birthday!"
- 40 gritty vocal quality
- 42 Dr. Jemison of astronaut fame
- 43 pop culture pirate word
- 44 "tac" predecessor
- 45 "This ___ test." (2 words)



Cozy Hunt

Your mission is to find all five of these illustrations that have been scattered throughout the newspaper. Once you've found them all, circle them and head over to the Student Activities office. The first 20 students to bring down their evidence will win a \$10 gift card! To get your prize, ask for the Connection Editor-in-Chief Jess or Student Activities Associate Elizabeth Machniak upon your arrival.



Horoscopes

Aquarius
Jan 20 - Feb 18.
Remember that the tongue is mightier than the sword. Choose kindness.

Gemini
May 21 - June 20.
The early bird usually gets the worm, though it's okay to sleep in too. Take some time to sleep in and re-energize.

Libra
Sept 23 - Oct 22.
Stay strong through the storm Libra, it will run out of rain soon and reveal your rainbow.

Pisces
Feb 19 - March 20.
The truth is sweet dear Pisces, lend your appetite not to rotten words.

Cancer
June 21 - July 22.
Learn a new skill or about a new culture. Your brain will thank you for it.

Scorpio
Oct 23 - Nov 21.
Plan some time in your busy schedule to check in on a loved one. The heart is always happy to hear from someone who cares.

Aries
March 21 - April 19.
Important decisions will soon arise, make sure you are present and not in disguise!

Leo
July 23 - Aug 22.
A rose cannot bloom without proper care. Treat yourself to some pampering.

Sagittarius
Nov 22 - Dec 21.
You have been working in overdrive for far too long, dance in your room to have some fun!

Taurus
April 20 - May 20.
Take a break from the things that no longer bring you joy, new opportunities await.

Virgo
Aug 23 - Sept 22.
Keep working on that personal project, you are closer to achieving your goals than you think!

Capricorn
Dec 22 - Jan 19.
As the stars align, pick up a new hobby or start a new personal project. Your creativity may surprise you.

CLASSIFIEDS



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- FEES PRICED FOR ONE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT, UP TO 30 WORDS. ADDITIONAL FEES APPLY FOR ADDITIONAL WORDS.
- ALL CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PREPAID.

ANSWER KEY

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



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!

YOU CAN SAY “NOT ANYMORE!”
TO INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE.

Keep yourself and others safe by reporting all instances of sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking.



Report incidents and concerns on the college’s online reporting tool, SC aware.

Three ways to report:

- Online at schoolcraft.edu/student-relations/sc-aware
- Deputy Title IX Coordinator (call 734-462-4486)
- Schoolcraft College Police Department (call 734-462-4424)



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