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The Guardian Student Newspaper

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## The Guardian, Week of October 6, 2020

Wright State Student Body

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Weekly Horoscopes

Star Signer

October 5, 2020

Read here to find out what movie you would star in if your life were based on a movie, according to your zodiac sign.

## **ARIES**

Aries, you are adventurous and rise to any challenge. If you starred in any movie, it would no doubt be "Avengers: Infinity War." The hero is up to your choosing.

## **TAURUS**

Taurus, you often are calm and collected and enjoy the beautiful and serene moments in life. If you starred in any movie, it would definitely be "The Sound of Music." It's a long one but it's a good one.

## **GEMINI**

You are a busy bee and often don't get as much done as you would like. If you were to star in any movie it would be "Ferris Bueller's Day off." You may find yourself in an unlucky situation sometimes, but hang in there, it will give you a good laugh later.

## **CANCER**

Cancer, you are highly intuitive and sometimes even a bit magical in your own sort of way. If you were to star in a movie, it would be "Frozen." Don't hide from your abilities this season Cancer.

## **LEO**

With a draw to be in the spotlight and a very passionate future, perhaps the best movie for a Leo to star in is "Mary Queen of Scots." A 2018 movie that focuses on royalty.

## **VIRGO**

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Virgo, you are a perfectionist at heart but always ready to improve your skills. If you were to star in any movie, it would be “The Incredibles.” An action filled movie with impressive character development.

## **LIBRA**

Libra, you often strive for harmony, peace, and balance. It may seem that ironically, the movie you would star in is “Karate Kid.” Ultimately, even if it takes learning how to fight, you will find peace.

## **SCORPIO**

Scorpio, with your amount of power and passion for anything you set your mind to, there is only one movie you could truly star in. That movie is “Iron Man.”

## **SAGITTARIUS**

Always on the chase for knowledge, one movie character comes in mind for you Sagittarius. If you were to star in a movie, it would be “Harry Potter.”

## **CAPRICORN**

Capricorn, hardworking and dedicated, you often find yourself having difficulty stepping away from your work. You also show strong leadership skills and an inability to take no for an answer. Perhaps the movie you would star in would be “Elizabeth.”

## **AQUARIUS**

Extremely intellectual and complex, Aquarius will definitely be starring in a movie that throws the audience through a loop. “Inception” is the perfect movie for Aquarius’s to find themselves at home.

## **PISCES**

A struggle between fantasy and reality often finds its way to Pisces. If you were to star in any movie, it would absolutely be “Jumanji.” With a number of main characters to choose from, Pisces has some options for the role they play.

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The Fight For The US Space Command Headquarters

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

October 5, 2020

Earlier this month, Gov. Mike DeWine sent a letter to President Donald Trump petitioning for the U.S Space Command Headquarters to be relocated from Colorado to Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

## **The reason for relocation**

The U.S Space Command Headquarters was established in Aug. 2019 in Colorado as a temporary location. On May 15, states began to place bids on being the permanent location for the headquarters.

“This area [Fairborn, OH] is already home to the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, Air Force Research Laboratory, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, and Air Force Material Command,” said Gov. DeWine in his bid this past summer. “It’s a powerful combination and a synergy that you can’t find anywhere else.”

Bids were due on June 30, but it is not expected for a location to be chosen until early 2021. In the meantime, Gov. DeWine and other officials across Ohio have continued to preach their support and desire for the U.S Space Command Headquarters to relocate to Ohio.

## **The fight for the headquarters**

On Sept. 17, Gov. DeWine sent a letter to President Trump to further reinforce the idea behind relocating the Headquarters to the Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Fairborn, OH.

“Ohio possesses a strong track record in populating science-rich jobs with a superior workforce,” said Gov. DeWine. “I also recommend that Secretary Esper strongly consider the consolidation of space intelligence activities at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and the establishment of the Space Development Agency’s mission in Ohio, thereby taking advantage of our Air Force research.”

Gov. Dewine’s efforts have been supported by other state officials, such as Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman.

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“I believe @WrightPatABF is the best location to serve as the new headquarters for US Space Command,” said Senator Rob Portman on Twitter after writing his own petition statement to the Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett.

In addition to state official support, the Dayton Development Coalition continues to play a vital role in advocating for the US Space Command Headquarters to relocate to Fairborn. After all, this relocation would provide many jobs and opportunities for Fairborn residents.

“While there’s been a lot of discussion about the 1,400 jobs the headquarters would bring to the area, that’s just the beginning. The economic impact would include everything from the jobs created by the construction of the headquarters, Space Force contractors locating to Dayton to be close to leadership and all the jobs created by new residents as they live their lives in the region,” said Dayton Development Coalition’s executive vice president for aerospace and defense Elaine Bryant. “It’s important for WSU students to keep in mind that Dayton already has opportunities for people wanting to work for the Space Force.”

## **The final decision**

While it is currently unknown exactly what opportunities will be presented for WSU specifically if the Headquarters relocate to Fairborn, WSU students and faculty are still excited for the possibilities to come.

“The presence of the Air Force Materiel Command, AFRL, NASIC, and other Air Force centers continue to be an economic boon to the Dayton region, especially given the number of technical and scientific job positions attached to those entities and their supporting contractors. Our college has enjoyed a number of long-lasting collaborations within those communities that have generated countless research projects and employment options for our students,” said professor and Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science Brian Rigling.

The final decision will be announced in early 2021.



## Key Highlights of The First 2020 Presidential Debate

Noah Kindig

October 5, 2020

The First 2020 Presidential Debate occurred on Tuesday, Sept. 29, between current President Donald Trump, and Former Vice President and Democratic Nominee Joe Biden.

The debate featured six topics for discussion, under moderator Chris Wallace of Fox News: The Trump and Biden records, the Supreme Court, the coronavirus, the economy, race and violence in our cities, and the integrity of the election.

The debate also featured new precautions due to the coronavirus. The candidates agreed to not shake hands and there was a live audience, but it was silent and spaced apart.

### **The debate**

Chris Wallace's first question was about the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme court, after the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Trump had the first say.

"Elections have consequences. We have the Senate, we have the White House," Trump said. "I think that she will be outstanding. She's going to be as good as anybody that has served on that court, we really feel that... We won the election, and therefore we have the right to choose her.

Biden's response was that the American people have a right to a say in who the supreme court nominee is.

"They're not going to get that chance now, because an election has already started. Tens of thousands of people have already voted," Biden said. "We should wait... because that's the only way the American people can express their view."

On the coronavirus, Biden argued that Trump did a terrible job, where Trump argued that if we had listened to Biden, we would be much worse off.

"The President has no plan," Biden said. "He hasn't laid out anything. He knew all the way back in February how serious this crisis was...He said he didn't tell us because he didn't want to panic the American people. You don't panic, he panicked."

"If we would have listened to you, the country would have been left wide open, millions of people would have died, not 200,000," Trump retorted. "I closed [travel to China] and you said,

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'he's xenophobic, he's a racist.' because you didn't think I should have closed our country. You wouldn't have closed it for another two months."

On the economy, Trump said that we are in a V-shaped recovery, where Biden claimed that it is a k-shape, with the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer.

"We built the greatest economy in history, we closed it down because of the China plague," Trump said. "Now we're reopening, and we're doing record business. We had 10.4 million people in a four-month period that we put back into the workforce. That's a record the likes of which no one has ever seen before. And he [Biden] will shut it down again, he will destroy this country."

"The difference is, millionaires and billionaires like him are doing very well," Biden said. "But you folks at home, you folks living in all the small towns and working-class towns in America, how well are you doing? You can't fix the economy until you fix the COVID crisis, and he has no intention of doing anything about making it better for you all at home, in terms of your health and safety."

When asked why voters should elect them over their opponent, Trump went first, saying that voters should choose him because of what his campaign has done.

"There has never been an administration or president that has done more than I have in three and a half years, and that's despite the impeachment hoax," he said. "The greatest economy in history, lowest unemployment numbers in history... A rebuilding of the military... a fixing of the VA... 300 federal judges and court of appeals judges, and, hopefully, three great court of appeals judges."

"Under this president, we have become weaker, sicker, poorer, more divided, and more violent," Biden said. "The billionaires have gotten much more wealthy... and you in the home, you got less. When we were in office, there was 15% less violence in America than there is today. He's the president of the United States, it's on his watch. And with regard to more divided, the nation can't stay divided, it can't be this way."

## **Interruptions**

At the beginning, the candidates were very patient and did not interrupt their opponent. However, when the open discussion began, the debate began to spiral, with Trump starting to argue with the moderator.

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At one point, Trump said to Wallace, “I guess I’m debating you, not him, but that’s okay, I’m not surprised.”

At several points, the candidates could hardly get a word in over the other, causing media outlets to view the debate as a disaster, and with no clear winner.

“I’ve never seen a third of people who watched a debate think no one won and I think that was the general sentiment of people who were undecided... I think if you were already shored up on Trump, you thought you’d see the best in him. If you’re shored up on Biden, you saw the best of him, but for the most part, I think people really felt like nobody won last night,” said pollster Lee Carter.

## **Upcoming debates**

As far as upcoming debates go, the Vice Presidential Debate between Mike Pence and Kamala Harris will happen on Oct. 7 at the University of Utah, moderated by USA Today’s Susan Page. The Second Presidential Debate will be on Thursday, Oct. 15 moderated by C-SPAN’s Steve Scully.

Book Review: "The Hollow Places"

Ariel Parker

October 6, 2020

When a portal to another dimension opens up in her uncle's amateur museum of oddities, Kara and her friend Simon embark on a horrifying adventure in T. Kingfisher's newest release, "The Hollow Places."

Kara, newly divorced and penniless, is stuck back home until her uncle Earl offers her a room at his wacky tourist trap: The Glory to God Museum of Natural Wonder, Curiosities and Taxidermy. Forming a friendship with Simon, the barista at the coffee shop next door, Kara focuses on helping her uncle and trying to stay off of her ex's Facebook page.

However, when Uncle Earl leaves for surgery and places the museum under her care, a strange hole appears on the wall of the museum, Kara and Simon go in to find out what's on the other side. Full of otherworldly beings and creepy antagonists, the more we learn of this perplexing world, the less we, and the characters, want to be in it.

Inspired by the short story "The Willows" by Algernon Blackwood, Kingfisher takes images from the original story to create something uniquely horrifying.

### **Pray they are hungry**

This "Narnia"-turned-"Pan's Labyrinth" sinks the reader deeper and deeper into fear and, with supernatural possessions and nauseating gore, you may never look at willow trees the same ever again.

One thing that absolutely sets this apart from other horror releasing this fall is this book's humor. Kara's relatability and Simon's quirky charm balances the dread readers feel during their journey through the undefined parallel universe they accidentally stumbled upon. Full of witty banter and genuinely funny jokes, this book will make you squeamish one minute and laugh out loud the next.

Kingfisher writes a memorable story with relatable characters in a dark, strange world that will keep you at the edge of your seat until the very end. The quaint small-town vibes, terror and humor all come together and make for a spellbinding modern horror novel. This is best to dive into the story blind and enjoy the ride.

The Hollow Places will release on Oct. 6 everywhere books are sold.

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Model UN: What It Is and How To Get Involved

Maxwell Patton

October 6, 2020

The Model United Nations (UN) program at Wright State University (WSU) is now recruiting students for the Fall 2020 Semester who wish to grow their diplomacy and public speaking skills as part of a unique experience.

## What is Model UN?

Model UN's basis involves simulations of United Nations conferences where individuals and teams are assigned to represent countries in speeches and debates through different committees.

"In Model UN, you're just having lots of conversations in lots of different ways, and you're trying to influence the room," said Model UN member Amani Wilson.

The program allows students, including Wilson and head delegate Jackson Cornwell, to gain important skills for their careers.

"It's a great way to perform those essential professional skills," Cornwell said. "You improve your professional speaking. You improve your business and research writing skills. You improve your diplomatic and negotiation skills. You really figure out how to work with someone one-on-one or find your place in a group."

This program involves a political science class (PLS 4860), where students learn about diplomacy, public speaking and technical writing, as well as do outside research to further their knowledge on a given country or topic.

In addition, there are two conferences every year that WSU's Model UN team participates in: the Dayton Model UN Conference (DAYMUNC), which is held at Sinclair Community College every February, and the National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN) in New York City.

Participation in NMUN has grown immensely since the conference began. According to WSU's Model UN website, "more than 5,200 students from more than 400 colleges and universities from nearly 30 countries around the world have taken part in recent NMUN conferences."

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Currently, NMUN plans to hold hybrid conferences next year, while DAYMUNC 2021 will be held virtually.

## **Hands-on experience**

According to Wilson, Model UN members never know what is going to happen at conferences until it happens.

“Every time is different. Every experience is unique. A good way of looking at it is that it can be as diverse as a conversation,” said Wilson.

The experience gained through these conferences has been positive for WSU’s Model UN team. Wilson regards his experience with February’s DAYMUNC conference as “great.”

“You get to see your strengths amongst people and your weaknesses, of course, with how you interact and how you collaborate,” said Wilson.

Cornwell mentioned that every conference he has attended has been rewarding for him, but each also presented a challenge.

“There’s always going to be a new type of delegate that you maybe haven’t encountered yet, or there’s a new global issue that has arisen that you’re going to have to be prepared to respond to,” Cornwell said.

Cornwell has been a part of the Model UN program since his freshman year at WSU and finds that there is always something new to learn when attending a Model UN conference.

“You can know all of the proper rules and procedures and Robert’s Rules of Order, but there’s still going to be a new social side that will occur in every conference,” said Cornwell. “I think that the most rewarding part is that I’ve gotten to see so much of the world without ever leaving Wright State.”

## **Signing up for the program**

To apply for the Model UN program at WSU, interested participants can fill out an application that is located on the program’s website through Oct. 9. It is open to all majors and anyone in good academic standing can apply. Even if an interested party has no political background, they can still find a role on the team.

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There is normally an oral interview for entrance into Model UN; however, that requirement has been waived this year due to the pandemic.

Wilson explains that for incoming Model UN participants, they should spread out their required research to succeed.

“It’s not too cumbersome if you spread it out, and it’s also very enlightening if you add it to your news sources every day. I would just say, take it in stride. Every day, do a little bit of research, and you’ll be fine.”

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WSU Sells Two Properties Worth \$3.5 Million

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

October 6, 2020

At the Wright State University (WSU) Board of Trustees public session on Sept. 18, the sale of the Cox Center as well as 3171 Research Park Blvd. were finalized, which will bring in \$3.5 million in revenue for WSU.

## Properties sold

3171 Research Park Blvd. is where the Boonshoft School of Medicine's Emergency Medicine Residency Program is currently being held.

"From my perspective, the sale was expected, and we anticipate moving in the coming months but do not have a date yet," said professor & Dean of Geriatrics Dan Swagerty Jr., whose office currently resides in 3171 Research Park Blvd. "We have had space there for about two years for both our departmental administrative offices and a teaching conference room for our larger group sessions."

The sale of these two properties was decided in order to help WSU continue in the effort to consolidate and to reduce operating expenses.

"Approximately \$1.2 million of the sales proceeds will be used to move the affected departments and the emergency medicine simulation labs to new locations," said Director of Communications Seth Bauguess. "The remainder of the sales proceeds are slated to go to reserves."

It is still unknown where programs within the Cox Center and 3171 Research Park Blvd. will end up. The vacating of both buildings is estimated to be early 2021.

## Properties obtained

In addition to the two properties sold this past month, the WSU Board of Trustees obtained four properties for future use from the Double Bowler Properties Corporation, a WSU non-profit that helps to manage various real estate investments made over the years.

The four properties obtained are as follows:

- The National Center for Medical Readiness (also known as Calamityville), which is actively used for medical readiness training for many organizations.
- A 38-acre lot behind WSU Lake Campus with the hopes to expand the campus itself.

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- Two vacant residential lots by the Duke Ellis Center in downtown Dayton, with the hopes to possibly expand the Duke Ellis Center parking lot.

The newly acquired properties by WSU did not warrant any monetary exchange.

“Those four properties are being transferred from being held (owned) by Double Bowler Properties to being owned directly by the university,” said Chief Operating Officer Greg Sample. “There is no cost involved. The properties are simply being transferred.”

There is no indication yet as to when construction may begin on any of these four newly acquired properties.

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WSU Soccer Players Return to ALMOST Normal Practice

William Baptist

October 7, 2020

Soccer players at Wright State University (WSU) are excited to be together again and practicing. Regardless of the uncertainty surrounding the season, they are happy to be back playing the sport that they love.

“It’s been great. Finally getting to see everyone and being able to train with all of the returners and the new guys has been very enjoyable,” said senior on the men’s soccer team Brayden McNitt.

The health and safety of the student-athletes and the coaching staff are still the main focus of the NCAA, so practices do come with restrictions.

“Every student-athlete and all athletics personnel should practice at least daily self-health before participating in any aspect of in-person athletics activities,” according to the NCAA’s website.

## **Protocols for Practice**

When the soccer teams first started practice, the guidelines in place were more strict. The NCAA and Horizon League review the guidelines constantly and are starting to get back to normalcy with practice.

“For the first two weeks of practice we were limited to small groups of six. The players were required to wear masks the entire time they trained,” said Head Coach of the women’s soccer team Pat Ferguson.

There have been some changes to the guidelines for the players since they first started practice.

“They can now train without masks. Coaches and staff are required to wear masks the entire time. The team room is still off-limits,” said Ferguson.

WSU was able to start training earlier than other schools, a big part of why practices are starting to feel somewhat normal for the players and coaches.

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“After the two weeks, we have been allowed four weeks to train as a full team. Everything is back to normal with the full team training and we are able to take our masks off during training,” said McNitt.

## **Challenges they are facing**

One of the crucial aspects of being able to improve as a team is to actually compete against another team, which is not allowed right now by the NCAA.

“Now that we are together, the only limitation is due to the fact we can’t play exhibition games against outside opponents – which obviously helps in our development as a team,” said Ferguson.

Preparing for the season throughout the summer was a challenge for the players because facilities and gyms were closed for months.

This was something student-athletes across the country had to deal with throughout the entire summer, so it will have an effect on every team regardless of the sport.

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WSU Political Science Professors On The 2020 Election  
Maxwell Patton  
October 7, 2020

The 2020 election is Nov. 3, which is less than a month away, and after the recent presidential debate, voters are making their final decision on which candidate they are voting for.

Wright State University (WSU) political science professors Dr. Edward Fitzgerald, Dr. Sean Wilson and Dr. Lee Hannah have weighed in on the election, the issues voters are concerned about, and what may occur after the winner is decided.

## **Predictions for the election**

Fitzgerald, Wilson and Hannah all agree that Democratic candidate Joe Biden has a strong chance of winning the 2020 election.

“I think hope always exceeds reality in these cases,” Fitzgerald said. “At this point, if you were to read the polls, Biden is up by 8-10%. Even in a lot of the battleground states, he’s either up or within the margin of victory.”

Hannah explained that Trump’s electoral college victory in 2016 was due to narrow wins in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, and that one of Biden’s strategies was to gain voter support in Midwestern states.

“Joe Biden’s entire candidacy has been based on a theory that he can win back those states and perform better in the Midwest more broadly,” Hannah said. “Based on the results of the 2018 midterms and the current polling, I would say that Joe Biden is in a strong position.”

Due to the coronavirus pandemic and voting complications surrounding it, along with other factors, the professors find this year’s election difficult to predict.

“[Biden] probably is more of the favorite, but we don’t know who is going to win,” Wilson said. “We certainly had egg on our face in 2016. I thought Hillary was going to win for sure, and that turned out not to be true.”

“This could be a very almost unprecedented election because there’s so many contingencies that could possibly occur here,” Fitzgerald said.

## **Third-party impact on the election**

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Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson and Green Party candidate Jill Stein, along with other third-party candidates, were polling around 10-15% with voters at this point in 2016. However, that support did not necessarily continue into the election.

“On Election Day, they got less than 5% of the popular vote,” Hannah said. “Currently, Jorgensen is polling at 2.5% and Socialist Howie Hawkins is polling at 1%. So, it is less likely at this point that they will play a decisive role.”

Fitzgerald does not believe that third-party votes will matter in this election.

“A third-party vote means absolutely nothing,” said Fitzgerald. “It’s like a tree falling in a forest. Does it really make a sound if no one’s there to hear it?”

According to Fitzgerald, third-party votes have “screwed up” multiple recent elections, citing Ross Perot’s campaign in 1996 as well as Johnson’s campaign in 2016.

## **Policy issues and potential changes**

Wilson believes that a major policy issue surrounding the 2020 election is the relationship between the United States and China.

“[Trump] really, really changed the paradigm in policy in certain areas,” Wilson said. “Usually, policy is incremental. Trump was very aggressive in the policy game and things he started doing. The question for Democrats, if they get in there is ‘are they going to keep any of this stuff around?’, and a good example is China. How is the situation with China? Is it going to be the pre-Trump relationship with China or is going to be the post-Trump relationship with China?”

He also cited the corporate tax cut, immigration and the administration’s “economic philosophies” as policies that may be changed if Biden is elected. In addition, immigration policies will more than likely be altered, as it is an area where Democrats and Republicans have opposite beliefs.

“There’s absolutely no way, if Democrats come in, that they’re going to keep the immigration policies of the Trump administration,” said Wilson. “Those policies really were controversial.”

Fitzgerald agrees that Biden would reverse a number of these policies if elected.

## **After the election**

Wilson explained that if Biden is elected, an important question must be asked.

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“The question is going to be, who is Biden? Is he the center-left candidate like Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, or does he move substantially to the left, because there are those forces in the Democratic party?” said Wilson.

According to Wilson, a dangerous problem for Biden right now is that people may only vote for him because he is Trump’s opposite, and that he may be elected only as that opposite.

“That doesn’t give him an affirmative mandate as if the public had said ‘yes, we want your policies over these policies.’ If they say ‘we want your personality over this personality,’ then he wins as a personality and doesn’t really have the policy mandate,” said Wilson.”

“That could be a problem especially if he doesn’t win the Senate,” said Wilson. “People who are concerned about public policy need to keep their eye on the ball. The Senate is the key. If the Democrats win everything, controlling the presidency, the House and the Senate, they’ll have a lot more political power to do whatever they want to do, and then we’ll get to see who Biden really is.”

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SGA: Meeting canceled, Williams Still in Hospital

Alexis Wisler

October 7, 2020

***Editor's note: Student Body President Adrian Williams spoke to The Guardian from the hospital to give the student body an update on his health as well as an update for SGA.***

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Student Government Association (SGA) President Adrian Williams remains in the hospital with acute renal failure. The SGA meeting set for Tuesday Oct. 6 was canceled due to his absence.

## **Health update**

Williams was rushed to the hospital the Sunday after the election results became public after experiencing what he called the worst pain in his life.

Williams has been in the hospital since he checked in on Sunday Sept. 27 and is awaiting a kidney biopsy to determine the cause of the acute renal failure.

“They’ve been trying to figure out why exactly it happened, they’re not necessarily sure. I’m trying to wait for a kidney biopsy to be performed on me. The problem is my blood pressure has been extremely high and they haven’t been able to give me the biopsy. It’s been three or four days that I’ve been trying to get the blood pressure down and it just won’t go down and until it does go down, I can’t have the biopsy,” said Williams.

During this time, Williams has been on dialysis and finished his fourth round on Oct. 6.

## **SGA update**

Williams encourages students interested in joining SGA to apply to the cabinet and other available positions posted on Handshake.

“My goal is to, throughout this week and early next week, get the people who submit applications interviewed and to have their paperwork,” said Williams.

Williams wishes to hold off on talking about his campus goals in-depth until he is in office with his team, but he did share a few things that he would like to work on this year as SGA President.

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“There will be a number of politicians and people from the State House coming, we invited the governor to come on campus and we’ve invited a couple of other people just to give them a tour of campus,” said Williams.

Williams also said that he wishes to focus on graduation and the upcoming sports season once he is out of the hospital to ensure that campus life at WSU stays strong during this time.

“I’d like to encourage everybody to please support their organizations’ virtual events and...socially distanced events because without those we just won’t have a campus life and we really need people to just be there now more than ever,” said Williams.

Students can reach out to Williams at [adrian.williams@wsusg.com](mailto:adrian.williams@wsusg.com) with any questions, comments or concerns they have.

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WSU Fraternity Expresses Concern About Injustice On Campus

Makenzie Hoeflerlin

October 7, 2020

In a letter to the campus community on Sept. 28, Wright State University's (WSU) Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. expressed their concerns with the university's response to racial injustice in America and on campus.

## **Incidents on campus**

"Since the inception of the Black Lives Matter movement, there have been hundreds of cases where innocent people of color have been murdered, for no other reason, than the color of their skin," according to the letter. "Here, at Wright State, we have also seen the same oppressive and systemic injustices on a smaller, but still relevant scale."

Many racially charged events occurred over the summer that President of WSU Alpha Phi Alpha Da'Von Hicks feels was not addressed properly by the university.

"I don't feel, and a lot of students of color don't feel, that the university has addressed or even mentioned a statement at all about the things that have happened, until students of color started to question the university," said Hicks. "Why are posts being posted about scheduling classes and dorms and housing... at the times that Black lives are being taken in the street, and even at the times that rallies and riots were going on? And nothing was being said by the university."

Alpha Phi Alpha cites several of these injustices including inequity in academic awards and scholarship allotments to minority students, consistent issues with The Rock where individuals are allowed to defame entire ethnic groups on campus, lack of necessary implicit bias training and lack of a designated staff member who is specifically responsible for working with underrepresented minorities to make sure their issues are heard and addressed.

"In our eyes, this university for the past 50+ years has failed to stand for the equity and equality of ALL students," according to the letter. "By doing so, the university has sent a very telling message to students of color and those allies who lend their financial support to the university, that their voices and concerns are not important."

## **WSU's response**

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In the days since the killing of George Floyd in May, WSU has created a racial equity task force made up of current students, faculty, staff and alumni.

“We seek to provide meaningful, ongoing interventions against white supremacy institutionally embedded in American life,” said the racial equity task force in a letter to President Sue Edwards on July 21. “United as students, faculty, staff, administration and alumni, the Racial Equity Task Force acknowledges the specific prejudices and intersectional oppressions experienced by students, faculty and staff of color and will actively pursue pathways for their safety and success. Anything less is complicit in perpetuating racism.”

President Edwards continues to comment on the equity and inclusion of the Wright State campus and has sent out several letters to the community on the topic.

“For an institution to really be excellent, we have to be inclusive,” said Edwards. “It also shifts responsibility for diversity and inclusion to everybody on the campus — from the Board of Trustees to our students and our alumni. One person or one unit cannot accomplish a cultural shift.”

While students of color appreciate the efforts that the university president has made to connect and listen to everyone’s voice, they recognize that more needs to be done.

“Letters from the president are very assuring from her individual perspective and we love that she is actually reaching out to the students, but on a wide scale as far as marketing goes and university admin... that reflects a lot back on the university,” said Hicks. “Wright State preaches a lot about being diverse, but it isn’t really shown in support to those students.”

## **Taking action**

Alphi Phi Alpha announced in their letter to the community that they sent a letter to Gov. Mike Dewine, asking him to enact O.R.C. section 3345.76 Division B. This would essentially replace members of the WSU Board of Trustees with members that reflect the ethnic population of the diversity.

The fraternity is also calling on Edwards to create a policy that allows for an equitable hiring ratio of underrepresented minorities.

“We also encourage the university to make the hiring of the vice president of inclusive excellence, formally known as the chief diversity officer, a Title 9 coordinator and Director of the Bolinga Black Cultural Resource Center, a top priority on the university’s hiring list, because

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without that role the university cannot ensure that the diversity mentioned in its mission is fully realized, and not just empty words,” according to the letter.

The university plans to provide training in implicit bias to faculty, staff, students and trustees, according to Edwards.

Wright State also continues to offer inclusive excellence forums throughout the semester.

“We know that there are allies with us who want to see these things happen and it is our unified responsibility to stop playing politics and start valuing our stakeholders and relationships,” said Alpha Phi Alpha in the letter. “We are confident this will happen, but only with all of us.”

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Fall Fest at Pot Luck Greenhouse

Nicolas Benvenuto

October 8, 2020

The Pot-Luck Greenhouse in Wilmington, OH is sure to be a hotspot for fans of fall festivities across the Dayton area. The annual Fall Fest extravaganza at the greenhouse will be active until Nov. 1., and includes fresh foods and activities for the whole family.

According to the Pot-Luck Greenhouse website, “the farm will look a little different this year. In order to keep crowd sizes smaller, tickets must be purchased online for a specific entry time. 50 guests will be able to enter every 30-minute interval.”

## **Ticket prices and activities**

Ticket prices for Fall Fest 2020 are as follows

- Ages 3-12: \$7
- 13-64: \$9
- 65+: \$7

In addition to touchless ticket purchases, guests will be required to wear a facial covering and encouraged to remain socially distant wherever possible on the farm premises.

Activities for Fall Fest 2020 include:

- 5-Acre Corn Maze
- Large inflatable Bounce Pad
- Pumpkin Patch Hay Rides
- Petting Zoo
- Giant Inflatable Slide
- Inflatable Twister
- Giant Chess
- Giant Cornhole
- Duck Races
- Jacob's Ladder

## **Getting out of the house**

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With students completing much of their classroom assignments from home, and some students working from home as well, visiting The Pot-Luck Greenhouse is a perfect way to escape the monotony of your work and enjoy some of the fresh local produce while engaging in the activities available at Fall Fest.

“I think it’s very important for students to pursue fall activities especially now during the coronavirus when so many people are just stuck at home,” said Wright State University (WSU) Junior Jaden Stacy. “You get to meet new people, embrace your creativity with carving pumpkins and just have a good time.”

WSU alumni Christian Henderson enjoys the corn maze at Fall Fest, and recounts autumn months spent at the university.

“Fall was my favorite time of year during my collegiate career at Wright State. The leaves changing across campus, being able to wear hoodies, visiting pumpkin patches and going through corn mazes were always my favorite things to do,” Henderson said.

“I feel for all of the students at WSU trying to have fun during these unprecedented times. You have to go out and still try to make the best of the situation. Things like Fall Fest are the perfect way to enjoy the fall months while still remaining socially distant.”

The Pot-Luck Greenhouse was contacted and was unable to comment in time for publication.

For more information on ticket sales and activities provided with admission, visit:

<https://www.potluckgreenhouse.com/fall-fest>

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Lake Campus Monument Honoring Former Librarian Goes Missing

Roxanne Roessner

October 8, 2020

Former Wright State University (WSU) Lake Campus librarian Barb Hicks passed away ten and a half years ago in May. Two monuments were placed outside of her office at Trenary Hall and in July of 2020 one was discovered missing. Though the monument has yet to be recovered, its disappearance shed light on Hicks and her impact on the Lake Campus community.

## **A laker at heart**

Hicks graduated from WSU Lake Campus later in life. Hicks was the mother to four children and her granddaughter Shannon Mcneil was the one who first noticed the missing monument.

According to Mcneil, on a fishing outing at Lake Campus, she went to visit Hicks's monuments and noticed that the one with Hicks's name was missing.

"The day of her funeral she was actually supposed to do the reading for her church. She was a role model for a lot of people, or at least I like to think so," said Mcneil.

Hicks was only 68 years old when she passed. The cause of her death was stage four lung cancer. After Hicks had fluid drained from her lungs, she returned to the hospital that same night. Two days passed before her diagnosis was confirmed as stage four lung cancer and the family made the decision to not proceed with chemotherapy and radiation.

Hicks's husband, Harry Hicks also passed of lung cancer and according to Mcneil, this played into why the family made this decision.

## **Honoring Hicks**

When Hicks passed, WSU Lake Campus library staff gathered donations to purchase a statue of two children reading a book on a bench and Program Manager Carol Jones purchased the missing garden stake with Hicks's name and lifespan.

"We took classes together, we worked in the same small building, and we were friends for the last 6-7 years of her life," said Jones. "I created a booklet for Barb's family which included remembrances of fellow staff members after she passed, and we had a small remembrance ceremony for her around the flower bed. I also raised funds to start the Barb Hicks Book Scholarship which was in existence for about five years for Lake Campus students."

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When the family went in to clean out Hicks's desk, they planted flowers in the flower garden outside of Hicks's office to honor her. The flag was flown at half-mast, according to Mcneil, and a woman sang a song in memory of Hicks.

"She loved her job, the people she worked with and going into work every day," said Mcneil.

Director of Student Affairs Sandi Holdheide offered to work with the family in replacing the missing monument if they were interested, though the family has yet to comment.

Liquor Curfew Remains 10 p.m. In Ohio

Kaitlyn Chrosniak

October 8, 2020

As organizations and restaurants throughout the state of Ohio call for an extension on liquor sale and consumption curfews, Gov. Mike DeWine continues to hold businesses accountable to a 10 p.m. liquor sale cutoff.

## **The Liquor Curfew**

On July 30, 2020 DeWine signed an executive order prohibiting bars and restaurants from selling liquor past 10 p.m. and liquor consumption past 11 p.m. DeWine signed the order following a spike in coronavirus cases that was associated with bars across the state.

“The problem is, bars, by their nature, lend themselves to a revolving door of people in close contact, oftentimes indoors, with interactions between many different people,” said DeWine when first introducing the executive order in July. “While this may have been fine during normal times, these are not normal times. We must make a change to curb the social behaviors that will cause this virus to continue to spread.”

A little over two months later, the bar and restaurant industry continues to be detrimentally impacted by DeWine’s executive order.

## **The impact of the order**

From Avon Brewing Company in Avon, OH, to The Dublin Pub in the Oregon District, bars and restaurants across the state have found themselves struggling with the 10 p.m. liquor sale curfew.

“The Ohio Restaurant Association has surveyed owners and operators around the state each week, and results show more than half are suffering sales losses versus a year ago of -20% to more than -70%,” said Manager of Media and Communications for The Ohio Restaurant Association Homa Moheimani. “Furthermore, 80% do not expect to break even financially in 2020, and 50% don’t expect their businesses to survive into 2021 if conditions stay the same.”

While many would wish for an extension on the liquor sale curfew, some students at Wright State University (WSU) feel that the 10 p.m. curfew is reasonable for the time being.

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“I guess I kind of have mixed feelings about it. I’ve never been one to stay out too late anyways and I honestly think that 10 p.m. is a reasonable time to start making people sober up. Also, because of everything that’s going on, I feel like 10 p.m. is more than late enough for you to be in a place packed with other people,” said WSU senior Julia Boyd. “However, if it were inconvenient for me at any time, I feel like I would be quick to change my opinion.”

The Ohio Restaurant Association has taken the initiative to write to DeWine in hopes of extending the Ohio liquor curfew to midnight in response to their findings on how the liquor law is impacting restaurants statewide. As of now, DeWine is choosing to stand by the 10 p.m. curfew.

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Student Athlete Spotlight: Angel Baker

William Baptist

October 9, 2020

Angel Baker is going into her junior season on the Wright State University (WSU) women's basketball team. She is ecstatic about the start of college basketball and more focused than ever on having a huge season.

"I was very excited; I was more than ready to get started," said Baker.

As a Freshman she was named to the Horizon League's All-Freshman Team after averaging 9.2 points per game, 2.6 assists per game and 2.4 rebounds per game.

She made a massive jump her sophomore season after becoming the starting point guard and averaged 16.5 points per game, 4.1 rebounds per game and 3.8 assists per game. She was named to the Horizon League All-First Team after her outstanding season.

## **Why WSU?**

Baker was a First-Team Associated Press All-State member as a high school senior in Indiana, won Conference Player of the Year and was an Indiana All-Star while attending Pike High School.

"The recruiting process had its ups and downs. I went through some tough situations in high school, some schools gave up on me. The ones who didn't let those situations define me stuck with me," said Baker.

Baker decided to leave her home in Indianapolis and commit to WSU, after feeling she had a connection with the people there.

"The people here are genuine, they didn't sell me a dream and I thought I could be good in this conference," said Baker.

Head Coach of the women's basketball team Katrina Merriweather built a great relationship with Baker, and it was not just about basketball with them.

"We have a great relationship on and off the court. It's bigger than basketball with her, so I appreciate that," said Baker.

## **Big aspirations**

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After making a huge leap from her first to second year at WSU, she is looking to do the same in her third year in the Horizon League.

Baker believes that this team has a chance to do something special and she expects to have a big season individually.

“As a team I believe our main goal is to win a ring. Individually I would like to be in the Player of the Year conversation,” said Baker.

Now that Baker is an upperclassman, she has honed in on becoming a great leader for this team during the offseason.

“I focused on becoming a better leader, taking care of the ball and just trying to grow as an overall player,” said Baker.

Baker wants to be in the conversation for Horizon League Player of the Year when it is all said and done, while the team looks to bounce back from last season.

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Fairborn Rocks: City-Wide Scavenger Hunt

Alexis Wisler

October 9, 2020

To celebrate Fairborn's 70th year anniversary, the Fairborn Parks and Recreation department is hosting a city-wide scavenger hunt with painted rocks hidden around parks, Wright State University (WSU) and near the Wright Patt Air Force Base.

"Our Fairborn Rocks Scavenger Hunt is in honor of Fairborn's 70th birthday...We were unable to hold our big birthday bash we were supposed to have back on July 4, so we were looking for a way to still celebrate Fairborn's 70th birthday but remain socially distant," said Fairborn Recreation Program Coordinator Molly Gross.

## **Partnering with the community**

The Fairborn Parks and Recreation department partnered with local Fairborn businesses to hide rocks around the city. According to the City of Fairborn's Facebook page, there are rocks hidden in all of "Fairborn's 22 parks."

"We partnered with all local businesses throughout Fairborn, they helped us paint 70 rocks that we hid around from Wright State to Wright Patt for everybody to hunt and find," said Gross.

In addition to local businesses, the Fairborn Parks and Recreation department also partnered with a local Fairborn Rocks Facebook group that already hid and found rocks around the city to help promote and keep track of the scavenger hunt.

"There actually is a Fairborn Rocks Facebook group that hunts rocks scattered through Fairborn already, so we partnered with that Facebook group... and we were able to track and find those rocks that have been found already," said Gross.

## **Community feedback**

Gross says that the community is grateful to be able to celebrate Fairborn's birthday while staying safe and enjoying the outdoors.

"Everybody that we've gotten pictures of rocks from has just absolutely loved it," said Gross.

Local business Spark, a multi-functional coworking and meeting space, partnered with Fairborn and hid Spark rocks for the scavenger hunt.

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“The [Spark] rock has not been found yet but we’re hoping it will be soon! Our community manager has been wanting to go search for the rocks. We will certainly post about it on social media if we locate it,” said Spark Community Manager Gabby Speed.

## **Plans for the future**

This is the first scavenger hunt that the City of Fairborn has hosted, but Gross says she wants to do more in the future.

“I love anything creative, anything that makes positive memories for families and people in general,” said Gross.

Looking for the painted rocks is a great way to explore the area and enjoy the outdoors.

“Just get out and explore. If you haven’t been to any of the parks there’s lots of different parks to explore,” said Gross.

The Fairborn Rocks Scavenger Hunt will be running until Nov. 30.

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Raider On The Rocks  
Nicolas BenVenuto  
October 9, 2020

While bars are currently only serving beverages until 10 p.m., Wright State University (WSU) students and alumni ages 21+ had the opportunity to learn mixology skills from the comfort of their own home.

The second installment of Raider on the Rocks took place virtually on Oct. 1. with an engaged crowd eager to learn the ins and outs of crafting the perfect alcoholic beverages. The mixology expert and teacher of the class Brian Petro, Founder of Smart Guy in a Tie Cocktails, has been mixing up tasty beverages for 17 years.

## **Meet the expert**

“I started studying [mixology] and learning about spirits in 2003 to get better at my serving job. I had been doing it since the recession in 2002 when I was laid off. The more I learned about spirits, the more I wanted to learn,” Petro said. “Books were scarce at the time, so it was mostly research on the internet and the few books I could find. I stepped behind the bar in 2004, and it felt so natural, like that is where I should have been for a while.”

While Petro is all business behind the bar, his title ‘Smart Guy in a Tie’ started as a funny joke.

“I liked dressing up nicely for work. It started in 2008 and it just kept going. When I was working at a company doing social media, it turned heads when I did not wear a tie. They just got used to it. So when I went out on my own, I made a joke about calling the company Smart Guy in a Tie. People liked it, and it stuck. Now, people who hear it appreciate it. Though now I am stuck wearing ties to every event,” Petro said.

## **Raiders eager to learn**

Participants in the virtual mixology course echoed Petro’s natural bar tending abilities, and were not afraid to ask questions during the presentation.

“While we were on the WebEx we had people picking Brian’s brain about all kinds of things,” said Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement Brooke Leppla. “People wanted to know Brian’s recommendations for different types of liquor, and were also interested in finding out why certain drinks pair well with others.”

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The active participation and overall positive response to the cocktails taught during Raider on the Rocks has Lepla and Petro eager to continue the virtual mixology series moving forward.

“There is going to be another one of these virtual bartending events on Dec. 8, and the drinks of choice will be crowdsourced,” said Petro. “So far gin has generated a large interest due to holiday themed drinks. People that want to suggest drinks or sign up to join us should contact Brooke for more details.”

Associate Director of Advancement Research and Prospect Management Rob Boley and his wife were two guests in the virtual mixology course, seen taking selfies with their hand-crafted beverages.

“The best thing about these events is learning from Brian’s expertise. It’s a real joy seeing a master practicing his craft, and we love trying out new recipes,” said Boley. “My wife and I absolutely will be at the next class!”

Those ages 21 and older interested in partaking in the next virtual mixology course brought to you by Smart Guy in a Tie Cocktails on Dec.8, may visit [www.wrightstatealumni.com](http://www.wrightstatealumni.com) for more information and a future events schedule.