The Guardian the Month of January 2023

Wright State Student Body

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News Roundup: Week of Dec. 25

Alexis Lewis
January 1, 2024
Wright Life

From local happenings to national topics and global events, here is the news worth knowing from the week of Dec. 25, 2023.

Local

**Governor DeWine vetoes HB 68**

On Friday, Dec. 29, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine vetoed House Bill 68, which would have banned gender-affirming healthcare and prevented transgender people from participating in women’s sports, according to a press release from the governor.

“Ultimately, I believe this is about protecting human life,” DeWine wrote in his veto message. “Many parents have told me that their child would be dead today if they had not received the treatment they received from an Ohio children’s hospital.”

DeWine still shares concerns about the clinics providing care and the age of people receiving treatments.

National

**College Football Bowl games**

On Saturday, Dec. 30, the University of Georgia beat Florida State University 63-3 in the Orange Bowl. This was the largest margin of victory in bowl history, according to a release from ESPN.
On Friday, Dec. 29, Ohio State lost to Missouri 14-3 in the Cotton Bowl Classic.

**Dangerous waves strike California coast**

On Saturday, Dec. 30, Southern California’s Ventura County issued a temporary evacuation due to the high surf on the West coast, according to an Associated Press release. This week, the powerful waves were expected to reach over 20 feet near the Pacific Coast Highway.

“Elsewhere along the California coast, flooding led to closures of some streets and bike paths. A high surf warning in the San Francisco Bay Area was downgraded to an advisory, with the National Weather Service saying wave heights had declined,” the release reads.

**Global**

**World population at 8 billion people**

According to the United States Census Bureau, the world population grew by 75 million people this year and is currently over 8 billion people. The U.S. population stands at 335 million people.

“This combination of births, deaths and net international migration will increase the U.S. population by one person every 24.2 seconds,” an Associated Press release reads.

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**Four Ways to Stay Productive Over Winter Break**

Ellee Rogers
January 3, 2024
Wright Life
It can be extremely easy to let one’s motivation and focus slip during this time of year. Students have faced a stressful semester and are ready for a break.

Here are some tips for staying productive while also enjoying the winter vacation.

**Set goals**

Setting goals is a great way to keep on top of things while school is out because it requires focus and follow-through. Reading a whole book, preparing for next semester, or being able to run two miles straight are some great examples of realistic goals to set.

Try writing down a goal and dedicate time and effort to being able to cross it off by the end of winter break. Achieving goals helps students to keep the practice of school in their routine and boost their self-confidence.

**Wake up each day at the same time**

Setting a schedule while on break may seem a tad unfun, but it helps in the long run. Try to wake up each day at the same time, whether it’s eight, nine, or even 10:30 am.

This will help the brain to stay focused and allow students to get the most out of each day off. Both the body and mind will benefit from this habit.

**Set timers**

Setting timers for any task such as cleaning a room, working out, or taking a nap can help students to utilize their free time to the best of their ability. A timer helps to section off tasks and ensure that they only last for a certain amount of time.

This helps to limit slacking and promote production since it is much easier to do something one is not looking forward to for 15 minutes rather than two hours.

**Try cooking or baking**
A fun idea is to incorporate cooking into winter break! Crafting different foods on one’s own or with family and friends helps to get those creative juices flowing.

Try out some new recipes or stick with a family tradition. Either way promises creation. Experimenting with new flavors and ingredients is a great way to work on having an open mind with everything in life. As they say, ‘it all starts in the kitchen!’

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**Dayton’s Not Dead: Ghostlight Coffee**

Emily Mancuso  
January 5, 2024  
Wright Life

Ghostlight Coffee, a Dayton-original coffee shop, boasts two Dayton locations with a cozy and comfortable atmosphere for students.

**Founding and new locations**

Starting from a single physical location in Historic South Park in 2011, Ghostlight Coffee now offers two storefronts and one bakery stand at The 2nd Street Market.

Founder Shane Anderson left a career as a band director to start a food truck, which grew into the Ghostlight storefront the Dayton community knows today. The store offers baked goods, sandwiches and a variety of coffee options and will also soon add two new locations in the Dayton Arcade and Kettering.

The Dayton Arcade location will focus on serving primarily alcoholic beverages, while the Kettering location will primarily serve baked goods.

The locations combined employ approximately 60 to 70 employees, with more to come with the new storefronts.

**Experience**
Tobi Brun, a barista and customer service and kitchen assistant, has worked at the Midtown location of Ghostlight Coffee since September of 2020. According to Brun, the Midtown location offers more in terms of food items such as bagels, sandwiches and pastries with vegetarian and vegan options. The expanded kitchen space allows for this production of food.

The barista described the work environment with a positive outlook.

“I really like the atmosphere and the coworkers that I have. It’s a great group of people and we’ve cultivated a group-like culture,” Brun said.

The Midtown location seats approximately 30 customers and also offers a group table space fit for a study group and individual tables that seat two people. Mackenzie King has worked for five months at the Midtown location and expressed similar sentiments about the work environment and coffee shop space.

“It’s a great environment to do any work or really just get together and study,” King said. “It’s nice to have the food options at [Midtown] in case you wanted to get food during your shift and stuff like that, but I really like the small town coffee house feel at the other location.”

WSU student Kyle Hobbs believes that the Ghostlight Coffee offers an enjoyable space, despite Hobbs not personally being a coffee-lover.

**Offerings**

For more information about food and drink offerings, visit the Midtown location menu and the Historic South Park location menu.

The Midtown location is located at 800 South Patterson Boulevard in Dayton and is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Historic South Park is located at 1201 Wayne Avenue in Dayton and is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Both storefront locations offer a carry-out option that offers menu items within 10 to 20 minutes.

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**News Roundup: Week of Jan. 1**

Alexis Lewis
January 8, 2024
News

From local happenings to national topics and global events, here is the news worth knowing from the week of Jan. 1, 2024.

**Local**

**DeWine signs executive order**

On Friday, Jan. 5, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed Executive Order 2024-01D, which bans any person under the age of 18 from getting gender transition surgeries in any hospital or surgical facility in the state, according to a press release from the governor’s office.

This executive order comes after DeWine vetoed House Bill 68, which would have banned gender-affirming healthcare and prevented transgender people from participating in women’s sports.

**National**

**Two dead in Iowa school shooting**

On Thursday, Jan. 4, a 17-year-old student at an Iowa high school shot and killed a sixth grader while injuring five others, according to an Associated Press release. The shooter was also dead at the scene from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.
**Grounding of Boeing 737 Max 9**

On Saturday, Jan. 6, federal officials grounded some Boeing 737 Max 9 jets after an Alaskan Airlines jet suffered a blowout in the side of the plane, according to an Associated Press release.

“Safety is our top priority and we deeply regret the impact this event has had on our customers and their passengers. We agree with and fully support the FAA’s decision to require immediate inspections of 737-9 airplanes with the same configuration as the affected airplane,” an official statement from Boeing reads.

The National Transportation Safety Board is also completing an investigation of the incident.

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**Global**

**Earthquake hits Japan**

On Monday, Jan. 1, a 7.6 magnitude earthquake hit the main island of Japan, causing high alerts for tsunamis with the death toll reaching 100 by Saturday, Jan. 6, according to an Associated Press release.

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**A Quick Guide to Creating, Following New Year’s Resolutions**

Emily Mancuso  
January 10, 2024  
Wright Life

According to the *New York Post*, 80% of Americans fail to keep their New Year’s resolutions, college students being no exceptions. Here are some simple steps and advice on how to keep your New Year’s resolution this year.
Pick one or a few goals for your list

Having too many resolutions can make someone feel overwhelmed and disappointed when they do not reach all of their goals. Keeping the list small with goals such as ‘get better grades’ and ‘keep a journal’ can help students focus their energy on those certain things.

Be specific

Let’s say someone has decided on ‘get better grades’ as their new year’s resolution. This is too general and doesn’t provide a concrete end goal. Students can evaluate what specifically they want to reach. For example, the goal ‘get better grades’ would work better as ‘achieve a 3.0 GPA’.

Make a realistic plan

Now that students have a specific goal (achieve a 3.0 GPA) it is time to make a plan on how to achieve this goal. Available time and needs must be taken into consideration. For example, someone might study for two hours after dinner every day and visit the writing center every month to get help with papers if that is where they are struggling.

Get a journal

Having a journal specifically for this New Year’s resolution/s can increase motivation and keep the focus on why someone is trying to achieve these goals in the first place.

Students can write down their reason for wanting a 3.0 GPA in the first place, such as to qualify for scholarships. Students should periodically write down their progress to show how they are getting closer to their goals.

Make a vision board
Vision boards (also referred to as dream boards) are visual representations of goals/dreams on a board that can be used any time of year but can be especially useful for the new year. Students can put their resolutions list and pictures of what they want their life to look like this year.

Be creative!

**Find support**

Working on goals alone can be very isolating. Finding a friend or family member to hold one accountable towards New Year’s goals will help when motivation gets low.

A friend can make sure a student gets to class and studies when they say they are going to. Offer to help the friend be accountable towards their new year’s resolution as well.

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**Review: Six Language Learning Apps for the New Year**

Emily Mancuso  
January 12, 2024  
Wright Life

A common new year’s resolution is to learn a new language, and these apps can be a perfect start to doing so.

**Duolingo**

When it comes to language learning apps, Duolingo is probably the first you think of. Duolingo offers over 103 language options, including Klingon from *Star Trek* and Dothraki from *Game of Thrones*. Duolingo is offered for free but the paid version of the app offers more features. However, translations are not always high quality and are better with Latin-based languages.
Rosetta Stone

Rosetta Stone is often hailed as one of the best for language learning both on the app and the computer. Rosetta Stone is a veteran of providing language lessons, starting over 25 years ago. Whether you get the software or app version, it is very user-friendly. Rosetta Stone will however cost more than Duolingo with a 12-month subscription of 96 dollars.

Memrise

Memrise is a flashcard-based app for not only language learning but other subjects as well. This app is ideal for beginners in a language whether you use the free or pro version, the pro version costing 56 dollars a year. Memrise’s technology adapts to your experience to teach you what you need to know but is not the best for experienced learners and is vocab-focused.

Lingodeer

Lingodeer is a good choice for any language offered through the app, but especially with Asian languages that other apps struggle with teaching. It is the same price as Memrise for a 12-month subscription ($56), which is more affordable than many language apps. The only areas this app lacks are developing talking skills and languages available to learn.

iTalki

The iTalki app is different from others on this list in that it actually connects learners with native speakers of their target language. You will be connected with a language teacher or tutor in one of over 40 languages that can range from one dollar trial lessons to over 20 dollars sessions over Skype. This unfortunately means that the quality of teachers can vary greatly.

Babbel
Babbel offers many different ways to get you started in learning that focus on almost all aspects of a language. The price is middle-range for this list, coming to about 83 dollars for 12 months which you can test with a free trial. While Babbel does offer 13 languages, the amount of content between them varies.

### News Roundup: Week of Jan. 8

Alexis Lewis  
January 15, 2024  
News

From local happenings to national topics and global events, here is the news worth knowing from the week of Jan. 8, 2024.

**Local**

**Tim Littell takes on new role at WSU**

Tim Littell will be assistant vice president for corporate relations and university initiatives in the Office of University Advancement at Wright State University starting Jan. 16, according to a WSU newsroom release. Littell is currently the associate vice provost for student success.

“Littell will coordinate and lead efforts around corporate and foundation relations and manage donor relationships for the Division of Student Affairs, the University Libraries and the College of Graduate Programs and Honors Studies,” the release reads.

**National**

**Michigan wins National Championship**
On Monday, Jan. 8, the Michigan Wolverines defeated the Washington Huskies 34-13 to win the NCAA College Football Playoff National Championship. This is the first national title for Michigan since 1997.

**Winter storms surge through U.S.**

Over the weekend of Jan. 13 and 14, Arctic storms coated the nation from Oregon to Montana to Ohio, according to an Associated Press release.

“A long weekend of ferocious winter weather loomed across the U.S. on Saturday, as a continuing wave of Arctic storms threatened to break low-temperature records in the nation’s heartland, spread cold and snow from coast to coast and cast a chill over everything ranging from football playoffs to presidential campaigns,” the release reads.

The winter storms have caused traffic problems, hypothermia cases, avalanches and record-breaking temperatures.

**Global**

**Mudslide in Colombia kills at least 34**

On Friday, Jan. 12, a mudslide in the mountainous region between Quibo and Medellin, Colombia killed at least 34 people and left dozens injured, according to an Associated Press release.

According to Colombian Vice President Francia Márquez, some of the victims were minors, and other people are still stuck under the mud as of Sunday, Jan. 14.

**Updated Winter Weather Safety Tips for College Students**

Alexis Lewis
January 16, 2024
With recent winter weather causing single-digit temperatures and extreme wind chills, here are some winter safety tips that college students should know to stay warm and safe.

**Dorm room / indoor safety**

**Space heater usage**

According to University Policy 13370.01, students should limit the use of space heaters to extreme conditions and must follow the guidelines outlined in the policy. Space heaters must have a “tip over” or “emergency shut off” switch and be clearly level on a flat surface away from papers or other flammable materials, like bedding or clothes.

The Center for Disease Control recommends never using extension cords when using a space heater and never placing one on top of a piece of furniture.

**Conserving heat**

Keeping windows closed is one way to keep a room warm, and so is closing unnecessarily opened doors within the unit itself, according to the CDC. You can place towels or blankets under cracks in doors or in drafty windows to prevent cold air from displacing through the dorm.

**Outdoor safety**

When outside for a prolonged period of time, you can suffer from frostbite or hypothermia. The National Weather Service recommends wearing layers of lightweight yet warm clothing. Covering the extremities, including the ears, nose, mouth and hands, is important when outside in such cold conditions.
The Weather Services also explains that mittens that are snug at the wrist work better than gloves. For more information, read the NWS safety tip sheet.

The CDC recommends inner, insulation and outer layers during frigid temperatures. Threads of Miami Valley provides clothing outreach to those who need hats, mittens or other clothing in the Dayton area.

**Car safety**

As a commuter school, it is important to recognize the importance of maintaining and ensuring car safety. The National Safety Council recommends that drivers “winterize” their vehicles by testing the battery, checking tire pressure, testing windshield wipers and keeping the gas tank at least half full.

**Before driving**

Before getting on the road, drivers should make sure the car is clean by scraping or brushing off ice or snow on lights, sensors, windshield wipers and all mirrors.

The NSC also recommends that drivers let someone know about their travel plans in hazardous conditions. Drivers should always follow local and national restrictions on driving.

**On the road**

While driving, drivers should increase following distance in case of sliding due to ice. Accelerating and decelerating slowly both decrease the possibility of a crash. NSC also provides a tip in case a driver starts skidding.

“Steer in the direction of a skid, so when your wheels regain traction, you don’t have to overcorrect to stay in your lane,” the NSC tip sheet reads.

**General tips**
Limit your time outdoors, and stay off the roads if you can.

When shoveling or walking outside, avoid overexertion.

**Wright State University has a heated tunnel system that connects all academic buildings.** Click here for a map of the tunnels.

For more information, including more detailed safety tips and symptoms of winter-related illnesses, visit the Ready.gov website.

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**Mini U: A Resource for Parents at WSU**

Eamon Baird  
January 17, 2024  
News

Parents who also are pursuing degrees may find schoolwork and childcare to be stressful and challenging, here are the resources on campus for the Wright State University community.

**The Mini University**

According to a 2018 report from the Institute for Women’s Policy (IPW), roughly 22% of college students are parents.

The Mini U serves three different age groups: infants from six weeks to 16 months of age, toddlers from 16 months to three years and children from three to five-years-old in a pre-kindergarten group. Ohio’s Step Up to Quality awarded the Mini U a 5-star rating, according to Ohio Jobs and Family Services.

Executive director Britney Leavelle has worked at Mini U for the last seven years and commented on the experience of working with children.

“I’ve worked with kids pretty much my entire adult life. I think I started working when I was 13, I always liked working with children,” Leavelle said.
The WSU Child Development Center Mini University is located on the Wright State Dayton campus. Since its foundation in 1987, the Mini U has become a National Association for the Education of Young Children accredited child care facility. The Mini U hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For Wright State students

For WSU parents, the Mini U offers tuition assistance up to $800 annually. Requirements for financial assistance are listed on WSU enrollment services website. In addition, campus grants are available to registered students.

Leavelle encouraged parents interested in enrolling children at the Mini U to schedule a tour of the facility. Leavelle described this process.

“So, I kind of walk through that process, we actually go into a classroom and kind of walk them through the day in the life of an infant toddler or pre-K student,” Leavelle said.

According to the Mini U website, to enhance a better learning environment, the facility offers classrooms with higher teacher-to-student ratios than the state average to encourage more one-on-one interactions.

A fun learning environment

Leavelle said children at the Mini U take part in fun activities year-round. For example, this Valentine’s Day, the children are having a friendship day party. In addition, parents are welcome to attend Read Across America Day on March 2, where librarians from WSU will come read to the students.

There is also a large greenhouse inside the facility, which the Mini U personnel use as an outdoor classroom. Students can plant fruits and vegetables to use later for cooking projects. A focus on fun activities in an educational learning environment makes the Mini U stand out in early childhood education, which Leavelle expanded on.
“The most rewarding thing is to see children develop and learn. There are so many different stages of children and how to develop them, and just seeing all that process is the most rewarding thing for me,” Leavelle said.

The Guardian’s 2023 Favorites

Alexis Lewis
January 19, 2024
Pop Culture
Wright Life

From old classics to new gems, here are the favorite films, TV shows, music and books from the Wright State Guardian team.

Films

“Barbie” | Greta Gerwig

Hey, Barbie! This film took the nation, and the Guardian newsroom, by storm with its colorful whimsy matched with its nuanced take on what it means to be a woman. With Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling as the perfect Barbie and Ken, this summer hit provided viewers with an amazing soundtrack, beautiful worlds and struggles that mirror those of our own.

“Oppenheimer” | Christopher Nolan

In this thrilling and dramatic telling of the “father of the atomic bomb,” Cillian Murphy teams up with Robert Downey Jr., Florence Pugh, Emily Blunt and Matt Damon to share the intricacies of one of America’s most pivotal people and times in history. From the development to the dropping of the atomic bomb, this film takes viewers on a journey in the mind of a complicated, cherished physicist.

“Saltburn” | Emerald Fennell
Jacob Elordi, famous for his roles in “Euphoria” and “The Kissing Booth” series, and Barry Keoghan play two classmates who end up experiencing horrific events during an unforgettable summer. Rotten Tomatoes describes this film as “a beautifully wicked tale of privilege and desire.”

“The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes” | Francis Lawrence

Welcome to the Tenth Annual Hunger Games! Back into the arena we go, meeting new faces and learning more about Coriolanus Snow, whom readers and viewers may know from the original trilogy, and his experiences mentoring in the Hunger Games. For action paired with romance and commentary on the human condition, this film does not disappoint.

May the odds be ever in your favor.

“The Princess Bride” | Rob Reiner

We had to include a classic on the list. This whimsical tale of love and adventure follows the classic “one true love” arc with the Princess’s one true love having to find her and save her. Viewers join Cary Elwes through the mythical kingdom of Florin in an immersive and comedic classic.

TV Shows

“Love & Death”

This crime drama follows the main character, Candy, who has an affair with her neighbor. When the neighbor’s wife is found dead, Candy suddenly turns from lover to suspect. The miniseries is available for streaming on HBOMax.

“Ted Lasso”
In this heartwarming and uplifting Apple TV+ show, American football coach Ted Lasso (Jason Sudeikis) takes on the role of coaching another type of football: British soccer. While lacking experience in soccer, Ted is able to meet the task with optimism and compassion, winning the hearts of the team and viewers alike.

“The Rookie”

Nathan Fillion stars as John Nolan, a 40-year-old man chasing his dreams of becoming an LAPD officer, in this ABC show.

“He must navigate the dangerous, humorous, unpredictable world of a “young” cop, determined to make his second shot at life count,” the IMDb description of the show reads.

“Physical: 100”

In this fitness challenge show, 100 contestants compete in a series of physical challenges to win a cash reward and title as the last one standing. The original language is Korean, with creator Jang Ho-gi making the variety show.

Music

“1989 (Taylor’s Version)” | Taylor Swift

An overwhelming favorite among the Guardian team, “1989 (Taylor’s Version)” featured some old favorites and new gems, including the poppy “Now That We Don’t Talk” and the sultry, sassy “Is It Over Now?”

Despite some negative feedback about this re-release, Taylor did not disappoint us.

“the record” | boygenius
Julien Baker, Phoebe Bridgers and Lucy Dacus teamed up for the first boygenius full-length album, which brought listeners nostalgic and sentimental hits. The indie group combined all of their individual styles to make a melancholy and lyrical record.

“Scarlet” | Doja Cat

Doja Cat did not come to play with her 2023 release, which featured eclectic and rocking songs, including “Paint The Town Red” and “Demons.” Doja Cat shifted from the style of her previous albums with this release, proving that she is a multi-faceted and ever-changing artist.

“Wasteland” | Hippo Campus

Indie-rock group Hippo Campus released this EP with songs ranging from upbeat, pop, pluralistic beats to slow, vibey love songs. For a perfect sound to listen to in the spring and summer months, check out Hippo Campus.

Books

“A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder” | Holly Jackson

The first in a three-novel and one novella series, “A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder” is a young adult mystery that follows Pippa Fitz-Amobi, who is not so sure that the case of murdered schoolgirl Andie Bell is really solved. Pippa must find out if the real killer is still out there and how much she is willing to risk to find out.

“American Prometheus” | Kai Bird, Martin Sherwin

This biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer follows his turbulent life from his early childhood to college years and finally to his work on the atomic bomb. This book provides a deeply sentimental and close reading of Oppenheimer’s triumphs and tragedies, making this myth of a man seem more relatable than originally perceived.
“Fourth Wing” | Rebecca Yarros

This story follows 20-year-old Violet Sorrenail as she attends a prestigious and elite school to become a dragon rider in Navarre.

“Friends, enemies, lovers. Everyone at Basgiath War College has an agenda—because once you enter, there are only two ways out: graduate or die,” the synopsis of the book reads.

“Today, Tonight, Tomorrow” | Rachel Lynn Solomon

Enemies to lovers set in Seattle over the course of one day. What more could you ask for? Rowan and Neil have been academic rivals since the beginning. The two have been fighting for valedictorian, but they have also been wrestling with newfound feelings that have crept into their hearts.

News Roundup: Week of Jan. 15

Alexis Lewis
January 22, 2024
News

From local happenings to national topics and global events, here is the news worth knowing from the week of Jan. 15, 2024.

Local

Transgender candidate cleared to run for Ohio House

The Mercer County Board of Elections chose to not disqualify Arienne Childrey, a transgender Democrat from Auglaize County running for the Ohio House, after Childrey did not include her previous name on petition paperwork, according to the Associated Press.
Childrey legally changed her name in 2020 and was unaware of the law requiring a previous name be included in files. The board officially cleared Childrey to run on Thursday, Jan. 18.

**National**

**Trump wins Iowa Republican caucus**

On Monday, Jan. 15, the Associated Press called the Iowa Republican caucus race, showing Donald Trump winning with 51% of the votes. Ron DeSantis and Nikki Haley were the runners-up with 21.2% and 19.1%, respectively.

**Warriors assistant coach dies at 46**

On Wednesday, Jan. 17, the Golden State Warriors assistant Coach Dejan Milojević died at age 46 after suffering a heart attack, according to a press release from ESPN.

“This is a shocking and tragic blow for everyone associated with the Warriors and an incredibly difficult time for his family, friends, and all of us who had the incredible pleasure to work with him,” Warriors Head Coach Steve Kerr said in an official statement.

**Global**

**Explosion in Nigeria kills 3, injures over 75 others**

The Associated Press released footage of an explosive blast that killed three people, injuring 77 others in southern Nigeria on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Rescue workers continue their search for people who might still be trapped under the rubble.
Events on Campus Week of Jan. 22

From the Women Center’s Love/Move Your Body Week to plenty of club meetings, Wright State University has a wide variety of events to attend this week.

**Monday, Jan. 22**

8:00 a.m. | Blood Drive | Student Union Atrium

2:00 p.m. | VMC Veteran Ally Training | Veteran Military Center in Allyn Hall

6:00 p.m. | EWB General Meeting | Joshi 292 or Online

7:30 p.m. | Belly Dance Class: Love/Move Your Body Week | TBD

**Tuesday, Jan. 23**

11:00 a.m. | Collegiate Young Farmers Club Meeting | Agriculture Lab: Room 106 in Ag & Water Quality Building

12:00 p.m. | Fat Liberation Roundtable: Love/Move Your Body Week | Women’s Center (023 Student Union)

6:30 p.m. | Trivia Night: Scooby Doo | The Landing: Student Lounge

7:00 p.m. | Bridging the Gap | Rike Hall 160

**Wednesday, Jan. 24**

3:30 p.m. | Campus Safety Series: Human Trafficking Awareness | Online
4:30 p.m. | Creating Confidence: Love/Move Your Body Week | Culture & Identity Centers (019 Student Union)

7:00 p.m. | Let’s Talk About Body Image w/ Tina VanSteenbergen: Love/Move Your Body Week | Apollo Room, Student Union

**Thursday, Jan. 25**

9:30 a.m. | Meditation: Love/Move Your Body Week | Women’s Center (023 Student Union)

3:30 p.m. | Convo Club | 224 Student Union

5:00 p.m. | Game Nights | Medical Sciences 141

7:00 p.m. | Friendship Bracelets and Coloring Books (General Body Meeting) | Rike 166

**Friday, Jan. 26**

7:00 a.m. | Climbing Club “Sunrise” Session | 037 Student Union

6:00 p.m. | “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs” | Endeavour (156 A/B/C)

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**SGA: Vice President of Student Affairs Candidates and Weekly Announcements**

Britin Frazey
January 22, 2024
News
The Student Government Association held its first meeting of the spring 2024 semester on Tuesday, Jan. 16. It was a brief meeting since the semester had just begun.

**Vice President of Student Affairs candidates**

SGA President Stephanie Buettner discussed meeting with a few candidates for the open position of Vice President of Student Affairs. Buettner explained that she is on the search committee and has met with several candidates to discuss the position.

Buettner said that the candidates she has met with have been “lovely,” and the search committee is hoping to have this position filled relatively soon.

**Announcements**

Buettner made several brief announcements during this meeting.

She reminded everyone that Greek Life recruitment has begun for the spring, so anyone interested in joining a fraternity or sorority on campus is in luck.

Buettner also reminded people of other events, including the Spring Involvement Fair, which took place on Wednesday, Jan. 17. She also urged student organizations to attend the basketball game on Thursday, Jan. 18.

**Rowdy Bobblehead Award**

AJ Allen, director of student organizations, passed the Rowdy Bobblehead Award to Buettner. Allen told Buettner what a great job she thinks she has been doing, and bestowed the traditional award upon her to demonstrate this.

SGA will meet again on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. in the Student Union Atlantis A/B room.
WSU Motion Pictures Department Presents “Doc Night” at The Neon

Emily Mancuso  
January 23, 2024  
Wright Life

12 motion pictures students presented their mini-documentaries about topics such as human trafficking, spooky hauntings and more at Dayton-staple movie theater The Neon on Jan. 11.

About the movies

By 7:30 p.m., The Neon was packed with student filmmakers, friends and family, but anyone could buy a $10 ticket to see the 12 films.

Before entering the theater, one could grab concessions and a copy of the program featuring the student filmmakers. The cover included a Last Supper parody picture with the featured students.

Like years past, the works shown were a culmination and final project of the Motion Pictures documentary course most often taken in the students’ junior years.

“Unhappy Endings,” a collaborative work by students Sabian Berdin, Ben Gabriel and Maddie Pfahler, went from light-hearted to a serious investigation into a local massage parlor supposedly offering “happy endings.” The documentary features a real-life raid on the parlor and undercover work by the students.

Junior Nathanael Blair presented two documentaries, “Passing Through Fire” and “It’s in the CommuniTea.”

“Passing Through Fire” follows Blair as he explains the process of artistic wood burning and its use in making portraits of those who have passed on. “It’s in the CommuniTea” shares the story of Nicole Cornett, the business owner of Billie Gold Bubble Tea. It explores the hardships but also the joys of running a bubble tea food truck.
“Beyond the Thrift: Vinnie and Velvet” by Hannah Hall covers the story of a young woman and her family opening a unique thrifting boutique that empowers other small businesses. The boutique, located in Franklin, Ohio, was voted 2023 Franklin Business of the Year.

Hall said she was inspired and amazed by the young woman, whom she has known since high school, that opened up such a successful business.

Barry Kingston presented a fitting documentary with the passing of Ohio Issue 2, “High Times with Sam,” which documents the reality of Sam Compston’s job as a cultivation coordinator of a cannabis cultivation center. The film also showcases common misconceptions and discusses Compston’s passion for the work.

Jude Powell’s documentary shows their father’s passion for woodwind mouthpieces in “Mouthpiece Craftsman.” The documentary follows the story of Brian Powell from apprenticeship in working with mouthpieces to working with famous musicians and honing his craft.

“Soldier and his Song” is the story of Alex Kuhn’s grandfather, Ron McGriff, and his experience as a trumpeter and draftee during the Vietnam War.

“When my teacher was telling us to pick a topic that stood out, my grandpa was the first that stood out to me because I knew he was a veteran and I wanted to learn more about that,” Kuhn said. “He also played the trumpet in Vietnam. I wanted to hear what that was like, if that was his routine, if it was difficult for him to do every day.”

According to Kuhn, the filming, which took place around October, took only an hour. However, scanning the individual photographs present in the short film and editing took much more time. This was the common thread that connected many of the filmmakers.

Sam White echoed this sentiment with his documentary “Parker’s Lenses.” The documentary shows the rich history and science behind camera lenses as narrated by Park Bowling.

“The [documentaries], a lot of them are relatively short, but the amount of work that goes into each is a lot,” White said.
White also contributed to the documentary “Mr. Chicken’s Pilgrimage” by Zach Vogt-Lowell and Sam Shaffer. The documentary looks at the chronicle of Vogt-Lowell’s, Shaffer’s and White’s journey to the grave of Mr. Chicken and the weird roadside attractions along the way. According to White, the documentaries took many long days to edit.

Isaac Warnecke presented “A Haunting on Sycamore St.,” a riveting tale of the haunting of a home in nearby Ottawa, Ohio in the 1990s. Unexplained occurrences lead to a devastating disaster.

Warnecke plans to submit his film to the Cleveland Film Festival.

**Behind the scenes**

Warnecke, along with the other student filmmakers, joined Professor Peter Wentworth at the front of the theater after the films for a quick 30-minute Q&A session with audience members.

Audience members asked about inspiration, life after the documentary and more.

This year, there were two “Doc Nights,” with one in December and the most recent one in January. While “Doc Nights” are often around the end of the year or early in the beginning of the year, dates are not set in stone. For more information, check The Neon Dayton website for upcoming dates.

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**Drag Show in Cincinnati Wows the Crowds**

Aaron Cline  
January 23, 2024  
Wright Life

The nearby University of Cincinnati held its annual drag show, leading those attending Wright State University to consider their own upcoming show in March.
Event

Before making their way to the showroom, guests were offered various pride-themed stickers and pins from UC students. The colorful palette of pride was displayed across the stage as well, with multicolored lights, rainbow ribbons and colorful slides posted on the screen.

Drag queen P.H. Dee hosted the show, energetically explaining the schedule of the night’s drag show and introducing the others who would be performing alongside her.

Most performers of the night had two or three sets lined up, with special guests featuring UC students, as well as a short Q&A session.

Thea Williams, a Computer Science major from WSU who attended the event, expressed their love for the show.

“It was very slay,” Williams said, explaining that people should make an effort to attend queer events, such as drag shows.

The performers in all their glory

The first to the stage was drag queen Stixen Stones, who has been performing for 12 years and has won various awards for her performances.

Stixen Stones was followed by Dayton-raised drag king Johnny Justice. He has been in the field for over nine years and currently does drag throughout Cincinnati, though it was revealed during the Q&A that he discovered his passion for drag at WSU.

The third act was performed by the host, P.H. Dee. Despite having the shortest career of the professionals on stage that night, she was on the same impressive level of performance.

The crowd was left roaring with excitement after every set thanks to the fun performances and mix of well-known and loved music each performer chose.
The final queen, who battled through traffic to make it up to Cincinnati, was Uhstel H. Valentine. With a background in multiple body-demanding performance sports, she left the crowd stunned with her moves and fantastic performances.

**First-time drag stars**

University of Cincinnati student Zo, a fourth-year Biology major with a minor in Psychology, was one of three students who volunteered to participate in a competition held as an intermission to the usual performer’s acts. The intermission consisted of three first-time drag performers who acted for a chance to win tickets to a Noah Reid concert as well as bragging rights.

Zo was the last star to go on the stage under the stage name “Joe Spooky,” which is based on an inside joke from the podcast “The Magnus Archives.”

Joe Spooky’s performance began with a short audio clip showcasing the inside joke, followed by the song “Main Character” by Will Wood. Despite being an un-stereotypical choice of music for a drag performance, the crowd enthusiastically supported him once they heard the popular artist fade in.

Within roughly three minutes, Joe Spooky managed to wow the crowd with his confidence and dancing skills as he weaved through the audience during his set.

After the performance, Zo stressed how fun the experience was and how others should do it as well.

“I have zero dance experience, have never been solo on a stage and don’t usually wear makeup, and I won a drag competition with sheer audacity. It was great. If you’re unsure, do it,” Zo said.

The other first-time performers, who went by the drag names Helios-99 and Ed Queeran, are fellow STEM majors who also performed spectacularly. The confidence to perform in front of hundreds was awe-inspiring from all three of them.

**WSU’s own drag show**
WSU’s Rainbow Alliance is holding a drag show as well. Ash Sword, vice president of Rainbow Alliance, wishes to keep students informed on the updates leading up to the event.

The most important update is that the official date was recently moved to March 30. Beyond this, students can register to perform at the upcoming drag show. While the performers are not finalized, students can expect to see a wide variety of amazing shows at WSU’s drag night.

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**How Students Can Prepare for the Rise in COVID-19**

Ashley Hainzer  
January 24, 2024  
News

The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic took the lives of over 42,000 Ohioans, 373 of whom were residents of Greene County, according to the Ohio Department of Health. Schools, including Wright State University, were shut down for months. While we are not in the situation that we were in then, COVID-19 still requires attention and safe practices.

**Nationwide statistics**

According to the CDC, there has been a 14.3% increase in positive COVID-19 tests nationwide. This is followed by an increase of 13.1% in ER treatment, 3.2% in hospital admissions and a raised death rate of 4% overall nationwide.

**Greene County**

Laurie Fox is a Public Information Officer for the Greene County Public Health Department.

Fox explains that while there is a dramatic rise in COVID-19 levels, it is not nearly at pandemic status. There have been some hospitalizations in the past months, but Fox
speculates that this is most likely due to factors that allow influenza and RSV to thrive this time of year.

“People are inside more. Germs spread more easily during these months. It’s more likely for people to catch things like the Flu. COVID-19 thrives in this environment too,” Fox said.

The newest variant of the COVID-19 virus is called JN.1. This current strand of the virus is special because the more that it grows, the more of a deterrent it is, and this causes the potential to be more severe. However, Fox assures the community that JN.1 is manageable by being careful and getting the newest version of the COVID-19 vaccine.

“There are ways to treat COVID before it happens. Practicing good hygiene will get you far, but we also recommend the current vaccine. The most updated version of the vaccine covers JN.1,” Fox said. “You can still catch other strands of the virus, and there is a chance it’ll mutate again because that’s how viruses work, but as long as you are updated and vaccinated, there shouldn’t be a problem.”

**What about WSU?**

The virus is still harmful and can put people in life-threatening situations.

Students seem to be conscious of this fact when asked about it. Many are posing concerns about the virus but ultimately have faith in no second pandemic.

“I haven’t stopped following the guidelines for my safety,” Public Health graduate student Modesta Abacheng stated. “I do worry for others, though.”

Abacheng goes on to explain that her friends and family have been continuing to follow guidelines since the pandemic “ended.”

“That’s the misconception, the pandemic never really ended. The world opened back up and people went back to normal life, but COVID-19 is still here. It can still kill. It worries me when I see sometimes very reckless behavior that others exhibit when it comes to Coronavirus,” Abacheng said.
Other students are hopeful and even poke slight fun at the behavior during the pandemic.

“I think as long as everyone is doing what they are supposed to and not buying up all of the toilet paper, we should be fine,” History major Sarah Deboer said.

**Guidelines: Greene County and Wright State**

According to the Wright State Coronavirus information page, the current recommendations for COVID-19 are to wear a mask, get all vaccines and boosters, practice good hygiene and get tested as soon as possible if you suspect you may have the virus.

While neither have hard and fast rules for before a positive test, Greene County and Wright State have very similar requirements if you get the virus.

If you test positive for COVID-19 at Wright State, you must go into isolation for five days. After those five days—if you have no remaining symptoms—you can return to class with a face mask for an additional five days. If you are in a dorm room or an apartment, you may also be subject to move to COVID-19-positive housing until you are better.

Students are recommended to fill out a self-report sheet so that they can communicate their absences and missed work with the school to find solutions.

These are similar to the guidelines put in place by the county.

According to Fox, GCPH recommends that anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 isolate for 10 days. Five of those days have to be completed in total isolation, as this is the most contagious time for the virus.

Afterward, people are able to continue with their lives while wearing a mask after they are either symptom-free or have no fever. Ibuprofen can help reduce a fever. Greene County also recommends that during isolation, you should stay somewhere that is properly ventilated to allow new airflow.
Stopping the spread

WSU students have access to one set of COVID tests each semester. Test kits are located in room 023 of the Student Union and in a vending machine on the bottom floor of the Student Union or under the Union Market near room 015. Each set comes with two tests, and students are encouraged to seek these out when feeling ill.

Check the WSU website here for other COVID-19 test locations.

If you need more tests or cannot find those, GCPH offers tests. A student is strongly recommended to call ahead and give them the number of tests needed in a household. The department can service anyone from any county while at WSU. GCPH is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

While GCPH no longer offers vaccines, these can be found at any doctor’s office or any local pharmacy with a clinic. Additionally, GCPH recommends that students get Flu and RSV vaccinations this time of year to stop the spread of those diseases.

“COVID is still here, but if we take it seriously, there is no reason for us to be scared of it. We have the tools needed to fight the spread and treat Coronavirus,” Fox explained.

BSU Starts New Year with Black Reality Talks Student Session

Emily Mancuso
January 24, 2024
Wright Life

A new year brings new questions to the table. The Black Student Union hosted Black Reality Talks on Tuesday, Jan. 16, hoping to address the questions and concerns posed by the community.
History and importance

Black Reality Talks, which originally started in 2019, address the need for an avenue of communication from students to faculty and also provide community and advice from more experienced students to newer students.

Jazmine Reeves is a senior in organizational leadership and is the president of BSU. Reeves serves as the spokesperson of BSU and helped put together the January event.

“If students are having any troubles on campus or new resolutions, that’s what this event entails. If there are issues, we bring in faculty and make them get resolved but also work with faculty together to make the space better for everybody, not just minority students, but also the student population in general, and also faculty,” Reeves said.

The faculty session—when BSU gives issues presented during the Black Reality Talks student session to faculty—took place on Jan. 22.

Previously, BSU informed the faculty that some students were concerned that dining halls closed too early for students to take advantage of them after classes.

For more information about Black Reality Talks’ history and previous events, click here.

New questions

Anyone is welcome to join Black Reality Talks, regardless of race or ethnicity, to discuss any issues they may have or simply attend for the community aspect of the event.

The event began with a quick introduction by BSU leadership and the objective of hosting Black Reality Talks. Sophomore Jaha Jackson elaborated on the importance of the events.
“I think it’s important because it allows students to have a platform and a safe space where they can talk about their problems or give each other advice,” Jackson said.

The projector screen then displayed a QR code where students could pose anonymous questions to BSU leadership. Questions included the following:

“Is there anything that the school plans to do about the car break-ins?”

“What can I do as a freshman to put my name out there and get more active on campus?”

“When is the Heritage Ball?”

“What should I do if a tutor isn’t available for one of my classes?”

“What are some good test-taking strategies?”

“Can I change my advisor?”

“What is Greek Life like here?”

After each question, BSU leadership and audience members answered the questions to the best of their ability and knowledge.

The next Black Reality Talks student session will commence on Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. in Rike 160.

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Student Initiatives for Full-Time Neurodivergent Center Staff and Representation

Britin Frazey
January 25, 2024
News
The Student Government Association has approved a resolution that proposes the hiring of an Assistant Director of Neurodivergence and Accessibility. AJ Allen, director of student organizations, sponsored this resolution, and Ariana Ellis, chief of staff, co-sponsored the initiative.

The assistant director would be a paid, full-time position to advocate for the needs of Wright State University students who are neurodivergent. There is currently no budget for this position.

**Reasoning**

WSU is known to be an accessible campus for those with disabilities. In recent years, wheelchair accessibility has been at the forefront of the architecture for new buildings and updates in the school. These efforts have paid off, with WSU being ranked third in the nation for wheelchair-friendly features.

“We’re already doing great with accessibility, and our goal is to keep improving,” Allen explained.

She stressed the importance that Wright State becomes more accessible to people who are neurodivergent as well.

Allen believes that having Cultural Identity Centers for people with all disabilities and neurodivergent people is important. This is evident in the increased activity that the Identity Centers have been seeing recently, which is also why there is now a need for an Assistant Director of Neurodivergence and Accessibility.

Allen says that recently, the Center’s directors and assistant directors have all been seeing a need to add this position, so she took action by writing up a resolution on this matter, which the Student Government Association approved.

**Resolution**

Allen explained that getting the resolution approved was one of the first steps to getting this position filled.
Allen’s resolution outlines how, in the Cultural and Identity Centers, “students with disabilities who utilize the center do not currently have a staff member to advocate for their needs within the Division of Inclusive Excellence,” which is the reason why action is being taken.

Since there is still some time before the Cultural and Identity Centers can expect to meet its full-time assistant, Allen’s resolution on the matter suggests another solution in the meantime.

With the resolution’s approval, the Student Government Association also agreed that a student worker be hired until a full-time director can take over the position.

While it may take some time for this position to be filled officially, the fact that this resolution has already been approved means that WSU students are already taking steps toward making campus more accessible to students who are neurodivergent.

**Fostering community**

Tom Webb, associate vice president of accessibility for the Office of Disability Services, explained that the goal of hiring this new staff member is to create a more inclusive environment and foster a sense of community for those students who identify as disabled or neurodivergent.

Webb commended the efforts of the students and staff who have been involved in the process of creating this position.

“Bonds and friendships fuel academic success and the courage to integrate fully into the student community,” Webb stated.

**Club Spotlight: Analytics Club**

Jahid Hasan
January 25, 2024
Wright Life
The Analytics Club is a new student organization working to unlock the power of data in business and society. The club spreads knowledge regarding data-driven insights and decision-making, improved marketing and skilled growth.

**Formation**

The idea of forming the Analytics Club started in the early spring of 2023, as the members’ main goal was to make something effective in the field of analytics and bring real-life experiences, skills and training to fellow students of Wright State University.

In November 2023, the club officially started with many talented and passionate members on their board who are eagerly working to make some changes by doing activities in the field of analytics.

“We are planning to connect the students with real-life experiences and bring more job opportunities by creating an international job fair at WSU,” Analytics Club President Anik Nawaz said.

**Mission**

The students will learn skills in the field of Data Analytics as well as marketing tools and tactics. The club will arrange corporate visits for students and engage guest speakers from various industries to inspire students to use information wisely and efficiently.

“The club will endeavor to promote better understanding between students from countries across the world through the sharing of information and insights,” the advisor of the Analytics Club, Dr. Kendall Goodrich, said.

**Reasons to join**

Nawaz provided multiple benefits for students if they join the club.
“We are going to work to increase the skills of the students in the field of transforming data into actionable insights. We will create more collaboration to engage them with their peers so that it will be fun and also knowledgeable,” Nawaz said. “Students will be able to learn from the successful people in their respective fields and will be able to make connections with them as well.”

Annur Sifat, the treasurer of the Analytics Club, also weighed in on other such benefits.

“The club can positively impact the community by fostering data literacy, providing valuable skills and promoting collaboration,” Sifat said.

During the Analytics Club kickoff meeting this past December, the club hosted an esteemed panel of business and analytics professionals, including Dr. Darryl Ahner, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, Dr. John Dinsmore, professor of Marketing, Tahir Lone, a Data Scientist at Nielsen and an alumnus of the MSMAI program, and Sumesh Muvala, a category insights analyst at 7-Eleven.

Their insights laid the groundwork for a series of engaging and educational events planned for the upcoming months.

**Upcoming programs**

The Analytics Club will arrange some exciting events in the upcoming days.

Feb. 1: A trip with all Analytics Club members, fostering camaraderie and networking.

Deb. 15: A collaborative workshop with the ISSCM Club.

Mar. 7: A seminar aimed at providing deeper insights into the field.

Mar. 21: A hands-on workshop to develop practical skills.

April: An International Career Fair (date dependent on WSU Career Services), offering a substantial networking opportunity for international students.
How to join

Interested students can join the Analytics Club by visiting the club’s page on Engage or by following their Instagram @analyticsclubwsu and Facebook: Analytical Club WSU.

The Analytics Club at WSU stands as a beacon of opportunity, guiding students through the ever-evolving world of data analytics.

A Guide to On-Campus Jobs for International Students

Jahid Hasan
January 26, 2024
Wright Life

Some international students struggle with employment during their time at Wright State. Here is a guide to getting that elusive on-campus job.

International community

With affordable tuition fees, numerous graduate programs and convenient housing on-campus, Wright State University has more than 1,200 international students who are currently enrolled. Students from all around the globe come to WSU to pursue their higher education as international students.

For experience or to put some extra money in their pocket, students feel the urge to get an on-campus job after coming to the United States, as they are eligible to work on-campus for 20 hours per week. Sometimes, it can be stressful for international students if they are unable to get their desired on-campus job. This guide will provide students with a roadmap.

Eligibility
A lot of new students sometimes need clarification on whether they are eligible to apply from their first semester or not. In this case, students can apply from the very beginning of the semester.

As per the WSU Human Resources Department, a student has to take at least six credit hours as an undergraduate and three credit hours if they are a graduate student, then they are ready to apply for their first on-campus job.

**Skills employers seek**

To get the job, students have to understand what type of people or skills employers are looking for in the respective fields.

“Most hiring managers are looking for skills and characteristics that are directly transferable and potentially valuable to their organization,” Dr. Kendall Goodrich, WSU professor and chair of the marketing department, said. “Evidence of strong scholastic achievement also helps, since this is a good indicator of work ethic and capabilities.”

**Preparation and job application**

**Handshake** is a job portal where a student will find job openings at WSU.

There is also an app platform by the same name, where students have to create an account by providing all the necessary information regarding their studies and any kind of work experience. Students can also register for e-mails from Handshake that will suggest on-campus employment opportunities every few days.

**Importance of the resume**

A student’s resume will play a very important role in terms of a job application because this is the mirror that is going to reflect experience to the employers.

Students must put all their academic details with work experience in the resume. There is no need to worry if a student does not have work experience, as they can
mention extra-curricular activities, training and other volunteer work experiences that will be relevant to the job they are applying to.

It is recommended to not use the same resume for every application, because the requirements will be different for each posting. Students can see the job posting for relevant keywords to add to their resume.

Malik Anik Nawaz, an international student at WSU, shared an important experience on his resume.

“I was applying for so many jobs but did not get any response, and I was pretty frustrated about that, but when I changed the format of my resume from Lance Cauley and put my previous work experience accordingly, I started getting calls for interviews,” Nawaz said.

Lance Cauley is a career consultant at WSU. He provides students with advice and information about resumes, as the international format is not the same as the American format. This is a common mistake international students make.

**Skills**

Most on-campus jobs do not require highly skilled knowledge, but some knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint may be helpful, but in some cases, the jobs may require specific skills.

For example, a Bangladeshi student, Ismat Ara Eti, is working as a UCIE immigration assistant, and she is required to know structured query language (SQL), PowerBI and more software knowledge for that post. For her English proficiency, she had to submit her GRE scores. These are some uncommon exceptions to on-campus job posts.

There are some job postings where a student does not need any experience.

**Communication**
In addition to the previously mentioned skills, students should have good communication skills to express their experience and the interest they have in the particular job.

Students should not hesitate to pay a visit to the employer if they have time. Talk to employers and give them your contact information. Ask them if they have any vacant positions and when it will be a good time to scope for jobs.

Sometimes, recommendations can be helpful from someone on campus in the desired department where the job is located. Such recommenders will also be good contacts for job information.

For more information about employment both on campus and post-graduation, visit the WSU Career Services website.

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Rise in Campus Crime Worries Parents, Police Department Aims to Soothe Fear

Ashley Hainzer  
January 26, 2024  
News

Lately, there has been a rise in crime on campus here at Wright State University. Students get bulletins via email about crimes ranging from car break-ins to burglaries. This has left some relatives of WSU students worried, but the Wright State Police Department ensures that there is nothing to worry about.

Crime

In recent months, there have been more reports of crimes like car break-ins and housing burglaries. Zachary Norman, head of operations at the Wright State Police Department, explains these crimes.
“The car break-ins are happening on a specific model of car. These are Kias and Nissans,” Norman said. “These are easier to hot wire.”

Norman explains that there is not as much information on the apartment break-ins but assures the community that housing is patrolled.

**Relatives and student concerns**

Tammy Halloway-King is an aunt to a current Wright State Raider. Her niece is a College Park resident who stays in the same building as the break-ins.

“I’m not usually worried about crime at Wright State, but combined with the Walmart shooting and all the problems in her apartment complex, I’m starting to get really worried,” Halloway-King explained.

While Halloway-King’s niece has been attending WSU for a short period, she explains that they have lived close to the school for many years.

“I’ve never really heard much crime coming out of the Wright State area until now. I hope that whatever police department works with them is working on helping these kids,” Halloway-King said.

Norman assures that WSUPD has certain procedures to combat worries of danger. He explains that the police department does several patrols a day.

“We go around campus and housing,” Norman said.

He also explains that there are programs for students where they can call and get a police escort if they are feeling unsafe in any scenario.

Students seem to be slightly concerned over the crime but have trust in the police department.

“I’m a commuter student, but I have noticed the increase of crime emails,” Jerryd Jones, a political science major, said. “I’m not entirely concerned. The police department seems to have a good handle on the situation. I feel safe on campus.”
Norman recommends that students contact WSUPD at (937)775-2111 with any concerns or police needs.

“Don’t call 911. Depending on the cell tower, you could get Beavercreek or Fairborn,” Norman explained. “For a faster response, call the Wright State Police Department.”

Additionally, students can visit WSUPD at their locations in Allyn Hall. The Department of Public Safety is in 108 Allyn Hall, and the 24-hour Public Safety Service Center is in 060 Allyn Hall (right as you get off the elevators in the basement)

**News Roundup: Week of Jan. 22**

Alexis Lewis  
January 29, 2024  
News

From local happenings to national topics and global events, here is the news worth knowing from the week of Jan. 22, 2024.

**Local**

**Shooting incident at Wright State’s Cedar Hall**

On Monday, Jan. 22, police responded to a shooting incident at Cedar Hall, according to a university-wide email communication. The incident was over missing property; there were no injuries, and the suspect is in custody.

**National**

**Trump wins at New Hampshire primaries**
Former President Donald Trump won the primary election in New Hampshire on Tuesday, Jan. 23, according to the Associated Press. The primary elections in February are in Nevada, Ohio and South Carolina.

**Jim Harbaugh to coach the Chargers**

Jim Harbaugh, who was the head coach for the NCAA championship-winning Michigan Wolverines, will coach the NFL’s Los Angeles Chargers team, according to an ESPN press release.

“Jim Harbaugh is football personified, and I can think of no one better to lead the Chargers forward,” Chargers owner and chairman of the board Dean Spanos said in a statement from the team.

**Global**

**Thousands march against femicide in Kenya**

On Saturday, Jan. 27, thousands of people in Nairobi, Kenya marched in protest against the killings of at least 14 women this month, according to the Associated Press.

“The anti-femicide demonstration was the largest event ever held in the country against sexual and gender-based violence,” the press release reads.

**Events on Campus Week of Jan. 29**

Aaron Cline
January 29, 2024
Wright Life

Learn a new language, game your heart out or become involved in new clubs this week at Wright State University.
Monday, Jan. 29

3 p.m. | Indoor Rock Climbing | WSU Climbing Gym

6:30 p.m. | Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament | The Landing: Student Lounge

7:30 p.m. | Troupe: Weekly January Meeting | Oelman 109

Tuesday, Jan. 30

2 p.m. | Bible Study | Rike Hall 020

4:30 p.m. | Mandarin Chinese Class #2 | White Hall 120

8 p.m. | SGA Weekly Meeting | Student Union Atlantis Room A/B

Wednesday, Jan. 31

2:30 p.m. | Abilities Meeting | Student Union 023B

6:30 p.m. | Professional Development Series | Rike 160

6:30 p.m. | Weekly Meeting (Anatomaniacs) | Medical Sciences 129

7 p.m. | Women’s Basketball vs. Oakland | Nutter Center

Thursday, Feb. 1

10 a.m. | Hijab Day | SU Market Table 01

7 p.m. | Visual Arts League Weekly Meeting | CAC Room 335

9 p.m. | Men’s Basketball vs. Youngstown State | Nutter Center
Friday, Feb. 2

5 p.m. | Weekly Meeting (Progressive Students Coalition) | Pioneer Room (SU 107)

6 p.m. | In an African Home | Rike Hall 160

6 p.m. | “Groundhog Day” the Movie | Oelman 109

7 p.m. | Women’s Basketball vs. Detroit Mercy | Nutter Center

SGA: Cedar Hall Shooting Incident and Internal Affairs Position Opening

Britin Frazey
January 29, 2024
News

The Student Government Association met on Tuesday, Jan. 23. During this meeting, they had several people speak regarding the shooting incident at Cedar Hall and also discussed some upcoming events.

Statements regarding Cedar Hall shooting incident

Eric Corbitt, director of the Student Union and Campus Recreation and interim dean of students, opened the conversation regarding the shot fired on campus on the night of Monday, Jan. 22, in Cedar Hall.

In Corbitt’s statement, he recapped the events, saying the shooter was not a student. The dispute was over personal property with a single shot being fired.

 “[The suspect] was apprehended and charged with felonious assaults and trespassing [and is] in jail pending other possible charges, and other than that, it’s an ongoing investigation,” Corbitt said.
Barb Marsh, director of Counseling and Wellness Services, joined SGA to discuss their efforts to help students following this situation. Along with explaining all the therapy options and other resources that are available to students, Marsh said that CWS have tables at the Student Union with available resources.

The Government Affairs Specialist, Daniel Palmer, discussed the Wright State Police Department new action plan after the gun threat made in the Hangar on Sept. 15.

“I think last night was very clear and concise on what was going on, and that was communicated very quickly to this campus community, so we’re already seeing the results of that critical review being implemented in a good manner,” Palmer said about the action plan.

**Upcoming events**

Courtney Laukitis, program manager of student organizations, shared the plans that the Student Activities group has for the upcoming Homecoming week in February.

On Feb. 14, there will be Spirit Boards Decorating and the Bee’s Knees Kickoff.

On Feb. 15, there is Cat’s Meow Paint and Sip, which is open to students and alumni. There is a $5 entry fee for students, and there will be cocktails and mocktails. Spots are limited for this event, so Laukitis urged students to RSVP if they are interested.

More information regarding all of these events is available on Engage.

**Internal affairs position**

The internal affairs position for SGA has recently become vacant. SGA President Stephanie Buettner announced that she would first open the position to current SGA members. If Buettner does not fill the role with a current member, she will begin a broader search on campus.

**Rowdy Bobblehead Award**
Buettner received the Rowdy Bobblehead Award last week, and she passed it to Steven Truong, the director of inclusive excellence.

“I’ve been working with him more, and I think that he’s going to do a great job in this position,” Buettner said.

The Student Government Association will meet again on Tuesday, Jan. 30, at 8 p.m. in the Student Union Atlantis A/B room.

Love/Move Your Body Week Helps Students Reimagine Body Image, Confidence and More

Aaron Cline
January 30, 2024
Wright Life

Thanks to the Wright State University Women’s Center, the week of Jan. 22 featured exercises and events encouraging students to gain a new perspective on their bodies while focusing on love and respect rather than the toxic expectations of drastic change that come with January resolutions.

Fitness and movement

In honor of moving your body, the Women’s Center held fitness events throughout the week and encouraged students to participate and workout or learn the ropes of certain gym equipment.

Monday provided a wide array of fitness classes with campus recreation, which held a class every hour. There was also a belly dance class held to teach students the basics.

Yoga focused on self-love and meditation was on Tuesday, along with a veteran-specific workout in the afternoon.
Women on Weights taught students how to use equipment that the Student Union gym offers with beginners in mind. The beginner-friendly event was on Wednesday afternoon and had a good turnout of students excited to learn.

Bobbie Szabo, the assistant director of the Women’s Center, offered a self-love meditation on Thursday. A few hours later was another self-love class with cycling. It was the final set of exercises that the week offered, but it ended with a theme of self-love and positivity.

**UAB Relaxation Night**

The Relaxation Night that the University Activities Board held gave students a calm end to the first day of Love/Move Your Body Week by providing free supplies to make crafts, including friendship bracelets.

The night also included self-care DIY sugar scrub kits and free journals to students who attended.

**Brown Bag Lunch: Fat Liberation**

Students were encouraged to bring a lunch to the fat liberation roundtable, which discussed questions such as “What does [fat liberation] mean? How does it differ from body positivity/neutrality? How can we achieve it?”

While these questions were included in the Love/Move Your Body Week advertisements, people delved deeper into topics, such as fat liberation, body image and hopes and expectations for women around the world in the upcoming years.

**Sisterhood and confidence**

Wednesday introduced a series of talks from guest speaker Tina Rae Vansteenbergen, a professional speaker from Brooklyn who delves into topics many women find themselves insecure about in hopes of allowing more personal freedom and respect.
Vansteenbergen’s first speech of the day at 3 p.m. to women organizations focused on community and sisterhood. She talked about how the special connection between women is a vital way to improve their lives and make them better people, both towards others and themselves.

The “Creating Confidence” talk was about how society has been incorrectly taught about confidence our entire lives; often, we are told that confidence is simply a switch we can flip as we please. In reality, it is much more complex than that.

Vansteenbergen demonstrated that confidence is an expert-level hike that society tells us will get easier over time, but it never does. Each plateau offers another set of challenges following it.

Despite these challenges, it is important to keep climbing.

Her speech was also very interactive and involved portions where listeners would get into groups and discuss question prompts. Groups found themselves racking their brains for moments of confidence or lack thereof, and the room was full of genuine compliments.

These group activities were used as an example of how people, especially women, can become more confident when they share their respect for those around them rather than isolating themselves.

While many attendees claimed their day-to-day confidence was roughly a four or five on a scale of 10, Vansteenbergen’s uplifting and positive speech left them feeling at a solid 10.

**Enhancing positive body image**

The third and final speech, “Enhancing Positive Body Image,” discussed the statistics of women’s perception of their bodies throughout the years and how we can learn to take control of the topic that is our bodies.

Vansteenbergen’s presentation revealed that many girls—as early as age six—have already learned to hate their bodies and fear becoming fat. Even worse, according to
the National Organization for Women, 53% of American girls are “unhappy with their bodies,” growing to 78% by the time girls reach 17-years-old.

Many of these girls developed these feelings because of how society discusses women’s bodies—often talking about their bodies and nothing else about them.

The presentation included moments of discussion among students to discuss how they feel about their bodies and what small changes they can make to improve their physical or mental health, such as drinking water or sleeping more, without weight loss or gain being the main focus point.

Salem Bartlett, a Sociology major and Psychology minor at Wright State University, was one of the dozens to attend these events.

“Because [our perspective on self image] is so ingrained in modern society for so long, we need to learn how to fix it to better the world for the younger generation,” Bartlett said.

Students ended the night feeling like brand new people thanks to the wise advice of Vansteenbergens.

Self defense

To wrap up the week, police helped to teach students about how to protect themselves in unexpected situations that may threaten the safety of themselves or others.

Women’s Center

WSU’s Women’s Center is a source for self-love and love from others, and the center dedicates much of its time to spreading information regarding topics that we may categorize as difficult to discuss with others.

After the successful Sex Week last semester, it is no wonder Love/Move Your Body Week performed as well as it did.
To become involved with future Women’s Center events, keep a lookout on their official Instagram page and Engage page, or feel free to stop by their space in 023 Student Union.

The Women’s Center leaves readers with this quote: “The world is a better place when we treat ourselves as well as we treat others.”

A Conversation with the Wright State Chief of Police About Campus Safety

Alexis Lewis  
January 30, 2024  
News

Wright State University recently released its action plan with an executive summary and recommended findings following the critical incident review of the Hangar incident on Sept. 15, 2023. Chief of Police Kurt Holden discussed the Hangar incident, the resulting action plan, the Wright State University Police Department effectiveness and overall campus safety.

For context, can you walk me through the incident on Sept. 15 in the Hangar?

Around 11:15 a.m., there was a report of an individual that entered the Hangar with what some believed may have been a gun. Officers quickly responded, assessed the situation, realized that it was not an actual firearm, it was a singular, rubber object, and then took the individual into custody for inducing panic and then spoke to witnesses in the area. Once we realized that there was just an individual that found something, because once we started investigating it, we were quickly informed that this individual found what was an ROTC training aid and then was trying to find somebody to give it to. From many of the witnesses, he was asking people if they think it was real or fake. Many people said that it was fake, but people really got alarmed once he lifted it above his head and said, ‘I believe I have a real gun,’ and that’s when people ran. He didn’t make any direct threats at anybody, from the witnesses that stayed around.
So he just found this gun in the Cadet Lounge of the ROTC office?

That's what I believe it was, in the Cadet Lounge area. It was a situation that we all wish didn't happen, it was alarming, and since then, I know ROTC has put many protocols in place to not have that happen again.

Is that a door that is usually locked?

It’s a lounge area where cadets go and have lunch, and they go in and out, and they do some training and things like that. I don’t know the specifics of what all they use that room for.

You said that ROTC has made some changes about that. Are you aware of any of the specifics of those changes?

I know that the door automatically locks now when they leave instead of something that you have to lock yourself. I know that they have since repainted all the training aids so that they are not looking possibly like they could be real.

One of the things that I was reading on [the executive summary and recommended findings report] is about how students or the community in general can raise concerns if they feel threatened by somebody on campus.

Absolutely. See something, say something.

There is email documentation about people who did reach out about this student and this person’s
behavior beforehand. Did WSUPD take this into consideration before the incident on Sept. 15?

I can’t talk about the individual’s mental health, but what I will say is that there were incidents where people had some concerns, but when we go talk with somebody, we have legal obligations to actually verify. So, for example, people can’t just say something about [the interviewer], and then [the interviewer] can’t communicate something back, and so it’s a difficult thing to deal with, that’s why we do our best. Our officers are crisis intervention trained, we do [Question, Persuade, Refer], we do everything that we can to get individuals resources and help. Just because someone is exhibiting a behavior that you find is concerning may not legally give us the ability to restrain that person and put them into a hospital without due diligence. There is a lot of legality and liability that goes into that.

On Sept. 15, after you had the suspect in custody, can you walk me through the steps moving forward?

During the incident, officers quickly responded, assessed, I know there was an email that was sent out saying that there is no threat. Then, I met with the media about 50 minutes to an hour later, explained the situation to them as well. I know that I talked to Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, went to the SGA meeting, explained about the incident. I know that there were still some concerns, and sadly we live in a society where you see what happened at Michigan State, you see what happened at UNLV, and what I try to tell people is that everybody there that day—there were two groups that did everything right. There’s one group that did everything right based on what they thought was going on, and if something like that happened again, they should do exactly what they were doing. And then you have another group that was doing everything right based on what they knew was going on. And why those are at conflict, that’s what this action plan is, is so that we can properly educate the community on why law enforcement does this, or why public health does this, or why communications are this. What might seem like an emergency to one person technically might not be an actual emergency. It might feel alarming, but an alarming incident does not automatically equate to an emergency.
The training rifles, are they shaped like rifles but have the orange tip?

I don’t want to say it’s exactly shaped because rifles have parts and pieces, and this is just one singular object, it’s a mold, so it has no operable parts on it. It’s very similar to a marching band rifle that they would toss into the air, but it’s a singular object.

Can you also walk me through, after you had the suspect in custody, taking the suspect to the fraternity president’s house?

This individual left the jail, and the jail called and said he’s coming straight to the police department because this individual didn’t have a place to go because he was trespassed. We ensured that he got his belongings. He had just walked I think about 14 miles from the jail. He told us where he was going, so he was going to go there regardless, and so the officers took him where he was going to go anyways. They stood by, and the [fraternity president] said that he would take [the suspect].

Were you involved with the suspect or have you been in contact since Sept. 15?

I try not to get intimately involved in certain investigations just to keep the credibility and integrity of the cases.

Before I get into the action plan and the actual steps, do you have any concerns about gun violence on college campuses in general?

I don’t have major concerns. I understand that the incident that occurred on Monday [Cedar Hall shooting incident], again, that is completely different than what happened at the Hangar; however, we are a very, very safe campus, and so I just challenge you all to maybe go look at the annual safety and fire reports at other
colleges and compare their stats to ours, and you’ll see that Wright State is a very good campus, it’s a very safe campus. I’m very proud of that, and we should be very grateful that when those rare occurrences do occur, we have incredible law enforcement professionals that handle them quickly, swiftly, and without harm to individuals.

**Especially after the Walmart incident, and like you mentioned, the Cedar Hall incident, it has raised some concerns with the community. How would you address those concerns and fears?**

I would tell them to look around at other colleges, see what challenges they are facing, and then when you look at Wright State Department of Public Safety and the Police Department, we offer training every single week. We offer education every week. Our officers are proud to engage with the community, collaborate, partner. We do programming constantly throughout the university and campus. I think that sometimes when these incidents happen, I have heard people say, ‘You all should offer training.’ I think that’s something that I challenge Staff Senate, Faculty Senate, SGA, The Guardian to help us get that information out there to students that ‘Look how much programming and education they offer,’ because we offer everything that’s been asked [of] us to offer, and that’s one of the things, and of course you’ve seen the action report, we’re going to offer training. Well, I can’t mandate people, but now there is a requirement for employees for sure going forward that people receive the appropriate training to at least be informed about what we do and why we do it. I think that’s very important.

**Speaking of the training, can you talk to me a little bit more about if someone has a mental health crisis, the type of training that people go through to address those types of situations?**

Most officers, when they go through the Police Academy, they receive blocks of training on crisis intervention and crisis awareness training. Here at Wright State, I don’t know if you have seen the story or not, we are the third police department in
the state of Ohio to receive the One Mind Pledge where all of our officers and dispatchers are crisis intervention trained. It’s very rare. I mean, there are over 1,000 police departments in the state of Ohio, and we are the third to actually receive this.

All of our officers receive QPR training, which is Question, Persuade, Refer. We also have 10 instructors at the agency, and we offer QPR every week, and that is just for anybody that wants to attend, they can get knowledge on how to ask the question, how to persuade, how to help someone get resources because sometimes we can’t force those resources, and this will at least allow you to have those conversations. One we talked about earlier was sometimes, it can be very difficult to speak up, and then you speak up, and then you go, ‘Well why didn’t the officer do this,’ and the thing is that we did everything we possibly could when evaluating and assessing the situation, and of course, there is only so much we can do with the legalities of the law.

**I do see the training on Engage and the flyers.**

Yeah, we offer a lot. I mean it’s on the university calendar, it’s on Engage, it’s on our police webpage, it’s on every TV around campus. Just getting that out there, even with these incidents that’s happened, with Walmart, with UNLV, we have very little attendance in our trainings, and we offer them in-person, we offer them virtual, we offer them upon request. A lot of people are saying that they want the training, but we are not seeing people attend, and I would really love to see that attendance go up. I think it’s important because we go over what to do, we go over when we do notifications, how we do notifications, and that seems to be a lot of the questions that people have. We have the information and we want to give it, it’s just that we need people to attend.

**Other than education and training, can you talk to me more about crime prevention with WSUPD?**

Crime prevention is the job of everybody on campus. We are developing a Path Program similar to the Veteran Champions. We are going to do a Campus Safety Champions program for students, staff and faculty. It’s something that I am very proud of. When I became chief in December of 2021, one of the things I put in place was called Community Connections because I wanted officers out and about
engaging with the community, and I think that people are like, ‘Wow, these officers are always out and about, they are always talking, always doing programming,’ and so last year, we just updated all of our stats from 2023, we have over 10,000 positive community connections, we offered over 90 trainings to the campus community about scams, sexual assault awareness, alcohol and drug awareness, online dating safety, Run, Hide, Fight, human trafficking, and we trained over 400 staff, faculty and students in Run, Hide, Fight. It goes to show that we are out there to educate, because education is what’s going to bring situational awareness, and situational awareness will allow people to make the best personal safety decision for themselves.

**Are those statistics online on the police website?**

We put them in our annual safety and fire report, so the new ASFR will have 2022, so it’s always a year behind, but when we do our Department of Public Safety overview training, I share the most recent stats so that if people attend the training, they get the stats live compared to waiting a whole year.

**In 2022, the police department received a grant from the state and I was wondering how that money was being used on campus?**

So it has to be used on campus because it is a campus safety grant, but of course, it is used for more cameras across campus.

**Are those cameras inside or outside?**

I can’t say specifically because it releases safety vulnerabilities, but the university is being a good steward of the $147,000, so it’s going to all cameras, so it’s cameras, cameras, cameras.

**Before walking through a little bit of the action plan, just a final reflection question:** What is your vision for
WSUPD amidst the recent, larger safety events on campus?

Monday was a big event, and that’s because that was a legitimate threat to campus. The Hangar incident, I think, was just a very alarming incident because we had an individual with what people thought might have been a real gun, and then people reacted how they thought they should respond to that, but the individual didn’t make any direct threats, but what I tell people is come up and walk up to the officers. The officers are out there engaging with the community, they are answering questions, they are out and about at events. We offer training, and those trainings, it’s not just us talking and then we say ‘Goodbye’ at the end. We have Q&A at the end of all of our training to ask questions and to kind of get that information out there.

One thing that I wish that would help us is, for example, you all or SGA or Faculty and Staff Senate to share a lot of the good things about safety at Wright State. That’s one thing that communications does, and we can only do so much, and you all are technically our partners, and so I think getting that information out there about what we offer, what we do, what other schools are dealing with and how Wright State doesn’t have to deal with a lot of those challenges I think will speak to the kind of campus we have. When those alarming incidents happen, we are a community and we will work through it together. I think that’s the big thing is how do we get all these other entities involved to share a lot of the positives because the only time someone wants to talk about safety is when they feel that something was unsafe, and I think if we help promote a lot of the great things we have ahead of time, when those very, very rare incidents happen, and of course I’ll keep saying ‘very, very rare’ because the data shows that it’s very, very rare here at Wright State, and then it speaks to the kind of professionals we have at the Wright State University Police Department because they responded quickly, swiftly, and handled the situation.

That goes to show that not only is it very rare, which is great, but we have officers that handle things very quickly and professionally. You can’t have a much better formula, we are very thankful and grateful that we are a safe campus, and I think that we should celebrate that a lot more than just talking about the one incident that happened.

Are you able to talk about the incident at Cedar Hall?
I can talk a little bit about it.

**A lot of the concerns were that it was an off-campus individual who came onto campus. Could you walk me through what the police know about that incident?**

Yeah, so I can tell you pretty much what the media already knows about it, which was it was an individual that lives here on campus had an existing or pre-existing relationship with somebody. That individual came here to campus to retrieve property, the property happened to be a cell phone charger, and it escalated to firing a shot from a firearm. Officers responded, our first officer was on-scene within 60 second, a minute, took the individual into custody, made sure that there was no victim or injuries and kind of checked the area, and quickly took the individual to jail where currently the individual is charged with felonious assault, I believe, and there will be other pending charges because there is a grand jury date of this Wednesday that they are going to seek additional charges. The individual was trespassed, arrested for a felony.

What I tell people is that we are a public campus, it is open to the public. We do as much as we can to deter things from happening here on campus. In those situations, if people see something, again, say something. If people feel like there is this or that going on, call us because I would rather you call us and we respond and it’s nothing than to not call us and it be something. Our officers did an incredible job once again and no one was injured.

**The gun that the person used, did that individual bring it on to campus or was it already existing on campus?**

The individual brought it to campus.

**In Cedar Hall and housing on campus, are there hallway doors that are locked and then individual doors?**
Supposed to be. Supposed to be locked. So we don’t control the access control over there, that’s Crawford Hoying, but I do know that there are locked doors. I believe the main entry doors to those are open, and then I believe you have to use your floor key to open up your floor, but again, I’m not entirely sure how that works. All that I can say is that the individual was arrested, a firearm was taken as evidence, he is charged with a felony.

**I was also wondering if you could walk me through a little bit of the action plan and explain some of the steps that you guys are taking and the rest of the campus community is taking. The main thing that people were concerned about is the communication aspect of Sept. 15, so the notification system and communication.**

I will direct you to the webpage. Our police webpage has always had information on it. What we did is add an extra tab, ‘Crime and Safety Notifications,’ but we’ve always had what we do, when we do it, and how we do it. But, we also realize that maybe not everybody wants to read all that information, so we added a chart that breaks down when and how we send out notifications, and then we also highlighted ‘upon confirmation’ [on the chart] because a lot of people are like ‘Why didn’t you send something out during the Hangar incident?’ Well, it was never confirmed that it was an emergency because our officers arrived on scene and confirmed that it was not, so for us to activate an active shooter alarm, that would have been a gross misuse of our emergency notification system, so that’s why that was not done.

Now, for example, the University of Cincinnati has types of alerts. Their emergency notification system, we pretty much have the same information, we just kind of replicated their chart because we do it the same way. A lot of people said ‘Why didn’t I receive a text?’ Even in their warnings, UC only sends an email. Does that make sense? So what we’ve done is that we have kind of made this a little bit more easily understood by those that can go and see it. This isn’t just on our police webpage, we have it in multiple areas, even on our emergency preparedness page, we have it right there as well. You can go to the chart back and forth. Those are some of the communication pieces that we have added.
We are also pushing to where we would love people to sign up for this so they can receive text messages, they can receive those phone calls. They do that all through their WINGS Express. What the plan showed us was that we are in compliance with all of these other institutions on what we already do. I think the difference is that it’s so rare that when it happened it’s, like, this stuff does not happen at Wright State. Now, if you talk to other people around another college or something that might have 50,000 students in it, they probably get alerts all the time, and so it becomes ‘Ah they just sent stuff out.’ But here at Wright State, we don’t really send anything else out, so when we do it’s, like, ‘What just happened?’ That doesn’t mean that we can’t do things better, so adding that chart to our webpage was a great start. Then what we are doing is that we have looked at adding this to our public safety training, which we already did, but now we added the chart to it so it’s not just words. We can say ‘Here is all the words’ and then ‘Here is the chart.’ And then we can go through it and people are like ‘Okay, that makes sense.’

I always tell people that language is very important, definitions are important, and so ‘emergency’ is emergency. ‘Active shooter’ is active shooter. These definitions are very important. When we look at a situation, such as the Hangar, there are going to be questions on both sides of that spectrum. If we pressed that emergency notification system about an active shooter, and then it came out that it was a rubber training aid, I’ve got to really look at safety. If I know it’s not that and I do that, I just put the community at a major public safety concern. How many people would have tripped down steps? Fell down steps? Injured themselves running to the parking lots? That very same day, Troy High School had two false alarms, and people were crawling out of windows.

It’s a very difficult thing sometimes to be the one responsible for that, but like I tell people, you know, ‘Chief, you look so calm,’ that’s a good thing. If I am scared, that’s not a good thing. I was calm because we have incredible professionals here that made a good assessment and good judgment, and when I have talked about this with other groups around campus, I have brought up the Walmart incident. Not the most recent one but the one before that. Individuals responded thinking it was something else. We found out that the witness that called it in didn’t give the most accurate information. The officers…sadly, an innocent person lost their life that day. And then we always remember that individual, and then we remember that another person lost their life that day in Walmart. And so our officers went in there and did it perfect.
And then people are all like ‘He’s so proud of his officers.’ Well, yes, I am. While everybody was running away, they were running towards. I think people forget, like, how powerful that is. Of course, that’s what I try to push out. We added the protocols, we still have our existing notification system in place. We have added some additional, non-emergency communication templates as well, which students, staff and faculty may start seeing things that are maybe not technically an emergency, but maybe something that officers are responding to this area and please avoid the area until we get there and go ‘All clear.’

To give you another example, Fourth of July. We get a lot of calls that people hear gunshots; it’s fireworks 99.999% of the time. Those are things we are looking at, creating some templates and looking at our notification system, maybe seeing if there is another vendor or something that might want to come in and help us with some relays of text messaging because the last thing we want to do is water down our emergency notification system to where people are no longer paying attention to it because they don’t think that what is on it is an emergency, it’s just another text. So we’ve got to find that balance, and I think the balance is just fully communicating that this is very, very rare, and we handled this appropriately. That’s what I believe this action plan says: that we handled this appropriately. It doesn’t mean we can’t always improve.

**I’m glad you mentioned the non-emergency communications too because that was something I was interested about as well.**

We are looking at how to utilize those without over-alarming people on campus.

**The next part I was going to ask about is number five [on the action plan], student and employee health and wellbeing. Can you talk about the disaster behavioral health plan?**
This is something that is being led up by Dr. Barb Marsh from Counseling and Wellness, so I don’t want to misspeak on it, but she would be an incredible resource on how we are going to implement this.

I think those were the particulars that I was interested in learning about on the action plan. Is there anything else that you think the campus community should know about campus safety or the Hangar incident?

I just encourage students to go on Engage, to the university webpage, and take advantage of these resources. They are incredible resources with great information. It’s up-to-date information, so they are not getting information from 20 years ago. This is really good information. As it relates to the Hangar incident, I don’t have much to add. I think I have been pretty available talking about it from Staff Senate, Channel 7, Channel 2, 247, SGA. I hope that through the executive summary and the action plan and through what we have already communicated prior up until now, I hope that we can see that we have great resources in place, and we have incredible public safety professionals in place and that we begin moving forward, that’s what I hope.

Important Spring Semester Dates for Students

Ashley Hainzer
January 31, 2024
News

Spring semester is a busy time for everyone. There are a lot of important events and deadlines, including graduation, that come up in the semester.

Important dates on campus

Lisa Runyan works in the office of the University Registrar. She was able to give some insight into these dates and how to prepare for them.
“All important dates are listed online on the Academic Calendar...the start and end dates for each term and part of term (A/B term classes): the last day to drop a class (Feb. 2), the day that the next academic schedule is available online (starting Feb. 5 for fall) and the day that a student can enroll in their next semester(s) of classes (starts Feb. 8),” Runyan said.

According to WSU’s website, the deadline to apply for graduation is Feb. 2, the final day to register to walk in the ceremony is March 22 and diplomas will be mailed by June 26.

The Graduate (Doctoral and Master’s) ceremony will be Apr. 26 and the Undergraduate (Bachelor’s) ceremony is Apr. 27.

According to Runyan, these dates are given out via WINGS, social media and emails and appear on televisions around campus.

**Student input**

Runyan stresses that students should enroll for things the first day they can. This ensures students are signed up for classes that they need to take.

“The dates are all easily accessible,” Runyan said.

Most students agreed, explaining the ease of finding deadline dates.

“I think it’s easy, but I never check it,” Troy Straughn, a third year Music Education major, said. “It might be confusing for people that aren’t familiar with the website.”

Another student, Michael Taylor, had the same sentiment.

“I mean, it took a second, but once I found it, I felt kind of dumb with how easy it was,” the history major said.

Runyan explained that students should check their emails daily and add necessary dates in their phone calendars as a reminder.
Missing deadlines

If a student misses the last day to drop a class, they need to see the committee that sees undergraduate academic petitions. If students need a refund, they must get with the committee that sees refund petitions. Each of those petitions require forms with extenuating circumstances. Visit the website that gives tips on filling these out for more information.

Wright State Students and Professors Discuss Upcoming Primary Elections

Ashley Hainzer
January 31, 2024
News

The presidential primary elections are on March 19 this year, and the campus community is interested in the election and anxiously awaiting results.

Professional opinion

Dr. Lee Hannah, a Political Science professor at Wright State University, described the upcoming election.

“There are a lot of things going on with this primary election. There are many things to factor in when it comes to making political decisions this year,” Hannah said.

Hannah has been involved with many groups regarding politics, including the now defunct Wright State College Republicans and the VoteFirst group, a previous on-campus, bipartisan group with the goal of getting people registered to vote.

“Both sides of the aisle are focusing on different things. Both are looking at things like Ukrainian support. Both are looking at economic and domestic issues, but the things they are focusing on are different,” Hannah explained.
Student thoughts

Several student organizations on campus, including the Black Student Union, Left of Center and the Progressive Student Coalition, are politically-based or discuss societal issues.

At this time, there is no Republican affiliation on campus; however, Hannah, who was the faculty advisor of the Wright State College Republicans while the organization was active, was willing to speak about some things Republicans may be looking for with this election.

“Trump seems to be playing on endorsements this time. It’s the reason why people like J.D. Vance were elected,” Hannah explained. “There are people like Nikki Haley who are playing a more moderate Republican role, but if we were to go by the trends of the issue, an endorsement from Trump is more than likely going to determine who is elected.”

Hannah goes on to explain that most Republicans are mainly concerned with foreign and economic matters for this election. Republican voter trends are more partisan to try and secure a presidential candidate, so moderate candidates, such as Nikki Haley, are receiving less support.

The Student Progressive Coalition is a left-leaning group that meets in the Emerald Room at the Student Union every Friday at 5 p.m. They discuss progressive political theory and work to educate the student body of WSU. Nathan Mahaney is vice president of the organization and discussed what they are looking into during this election.

“We are particularly interested in House Bill 68, which is the bill about gender-affirming care and education of these topics in colleges in Ohio,” Mahaney said.

The SPC is currently planning to hold several events to educate students on this topic.
“We will be tabling for the anti-trans bill,” Daniel Wasniewski, president of SPC, said. “Ideally, these will happen Tuesday (Jan. 30), Thursday (Feb. 1) and Friday (Feb. 2) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. near the Union Market.”

On Feb. 2, the group has a seminar called “Intro Economics for Emancipations,” which is about economics in politics.

“This election is high-stakes for us,” Wasniewski said. “Trump is making scary statements threatening elections and is an existential threat to the democratic quarter.”

**Voting**

Hannah explains that voter outlook is not expected to reach the 2020 levels.

“There is a lot with politics that might sway people to just not vote this year,” Hannah said.

SPC explained their views on voting and its use as a mechanism for change.

“We view voting as a tool for systemic change and more incremental change. It’s not the only strategy. We support public demonstration [as well],” Mahaney said.

SPC is a group that mainly focuses on the “grassroots” method of change. They are major proponents of demonstrations and voting on a local basis.

“There are many ways to effect change. Voting is one way we are focused more on a local level,” Preston Holton, the group’s public relations director, stated.

**Getting involved**

Students who wish to be more involved in politics are welcome to join the myriad of political groups on campus. If there is not one for your affiliation, students are encouraged to visit the Student Organizations web page and follow the directions to start one.
Additionally, Hannah is teaching a class in the fall semester that takes a closer look at elections, including the upcoming presidential election. The class code is PLS4030, and students can talk to assigned academic advisors about adding the course.

Any student who would like to intern for a candidate or party office is welcome to email Hannah about the topic. For more information about the primary election in Ohio, visit the Secretary of State website. The deadline to register to vote during the primaries is Feb. 20.