

A woman wearing a black riding helmet, a purple long-sleeved shirt, a black vest, and blue riding pants is riding a brown horse. She is looking down and to the right, holding the reins. The horse is also looking in the same direction. They are in a stable with wooden walls and a blue door in the background.

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Abby Jenkins | Staff Photographer

Ubly junior Ryche Roggenbuck restocks the shelves of the CMU Student Food Pantry on Jan. 26. The food pantry is open from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesdays 3-5 p.m. on Wednesdays and noon to 3 p.m. on Fridays.

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Addy Wachter | Staff Photographer
Renae Dickie walks to the ring before lessons Dec.
10 at Sunshine Farms in Bay City.

BACK IN THE SADDLE

Equestrian club returns to competition after lost year

By Addy Wachter and Layla Blahnik-Thoune
Staff Photographer and Photo Editor

Walking into the barn filled with hay, dirt, sand and the smell of animals, Illinois sophomore, Adeline Kolsto, strolls past the horses in their stalls. Kolsto arrives at Pippin's spot in the barn and starts to brush him and put the gear on his back, feeding Pippin treats for behaving.

Kolsto joined Central Michigan University's equestrian club her freshman year in 2020. Since there was no competition last year due to COVID-19 restrictions, Kolsto said this is her first year competing.

Despite being new to the club, she is also the president.

When Kolsto found out more information about joining the club through a Zoom meeting,

“

It is very motivating and very fulfilling because I get to give very motivated girls the opportunity to do what they love and create a really positive environment where they can further develop their skill,

”

Adeline Kolsto

there were only five people on the call.

“I told the president at the time that this is what I want to really be involved in on campus,” Kolsto said. “She was graduating and none of the other people had any interest in being involved so I had to take this on if I wanted it to work.”

With help from the former president and eight other girls in the club, Kolsto has kept the equestrian team alive.

“It is very motivating and very fulfilling because I get to give very motivated girls the opportunity to do what they love and create a really positive environment where they can further develop their skill,” Kolsto said. “That honestly kept me so happy throughout all of this and it makes me very proud that I took on this position.”

Throughout the pandemic restrictions, a shrinking club and return to competition members count on each other to uplift their spirits.

“My team members will tell me how thankful they are for this or how much better their day is once they've gone to the barn,” Kolsto said. “I'm just really happy that I'm able to provide that for these people.”



Photo courtesy of Adeline Kolsto

The CMU Equestrian Team gathers to have its photo taken during University of Michigan's Horse Show Jan. 22 at Willowbrooke Farm in Plymouth.



Addy Wachter | Staff Photographer

CMU Equestrian Club President Adeline Kolsto rides her horse during lessons with their coach on Dec. 10 at Sunshine Farms in Bay City.



Layla Blahnik-Thoune | Photo Editor

A horse stands in the stables after being ridden Jan. 17 at Sunshine Farms.



CMU Equestrian Club President Adeline Kolsto rides a horse during lessons Jan. 27 at Sunnyshine Farms in Bay City.

Layla Blahnik-Thoune | Photo Editor

404 PAGE NOT FOUND: Faulty sound off on problematic launch of redesigned cmich.edu

By Patrick Bouman
Staff Reporter

Central Michigan University's new website launch has been met with criticism from faculty, staff and students for problems with its content and functionality.

At the Jan. 18 Academic Senate meeting, several faculty voiced concerns with the website. Missing information and crashing were two highlighted issues. A major concern from faculty was miscommunication during the site's development. Some faculty said they were not involved enough in the website's creation.

"In a time of dwindling enrollment, this is a slip-up we cannot afford," Senator John Allen said at the meeting. "It is a woefully underprepared website and I think the students have recognized this."

According to Vice President for Marketing and Communication John Veilleux, there were about 20,000 pages on the old website - 7,000 have been included on the new website. Veilleux said content decisions were made by departments and colleges.

Colleges and departments chose their own website collaborators, Veilleux said, to collect and design web content. There are 250 of these trained collaborators across campus. He said the collaborators worked with faculty to choose content for the new site. They would then send the information to one of four people working on Veilleux's development team.

Some faculty said they were not included in the process, but Veilleux said website collaborators were all told to communicate and work with faculty.

"Our team has sent out communi-

cations to 100 percent of faculty and 100 percent of staff that provides the instructions on what to do," Veilleux said. "...I presume all of those folks are talking. 'I mean, that's what they should be doing.'"

Senator Allen said his colleagues on the College of Science and Engineering Communications Committee were not asked to submit content. Senator Martha Frank said there is no information for new mathematics graduate students.

"I don't know anybody in the graduate committee that was allowed to have any input on what went on the math department page," Frank said during the senate meeting. "We can't wait for these fixes. This seems like it's been bungled from the top down here. I am very frustrated."

Frank submitted about six pages of her concerns before the meeting. She said the lack of information about

mathematics graduate programs will hurt graduate enrollment. She also said when searching for the word 'math,' results for a math program showed up fifth in line, behind economics and finance programs.

At the senate meeting, Veilleux also said an unknown issue has caused instability in the website when staff try to make changes to it.

"We know it's a great website and we know it's a great platform, but we're not understanding the technical issue that's going on," Veilleux said.

Before the website went public, Veilleux said it was moved onto a private server to test it. Everything was working during testing, he said, but issues appeared after the launch.

Some senators questioned whether the site was ready to be published.

"We absolutely felt it was ready," Veilleux said. "This is what happens when you go to a live environment. You can't

predict what's going to happen."

The website's algorithm will continue adapting to recognize more relevant search results, Veilleux said. Combined with edits made by the technical teams, he said the website will get better as time passes.

The criticism the website and its design team have received from faculty and students is misplaced, Veilleux said.

"I don't think it falls on leadership," Veilleux said. "I don't think it falls on any one thing. I think it falls on the nature of these massive projects. We're going to be building and optimizing this website for the next 20 years, like the previous website.

"I knew this was a part of the project and I knew it was going to be a big project. I embrace that responsibility. I'm glad people are sharing their feedback; send it my way."

Contact Veilleux at veill1jm@cmich.edu

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Nate Pappas | Staff Photographer

CMU wrestler Corbyn Munson goes for a takedown on Campbell University wrestler Shannon Hanna during their 149 lb match, Jan. 16 in McGuirk Arena.

Former Chippewa wrestlers

By Megan Youngblood
Staff Reporter

Three former Chippewa wrestlers made their return to McGuirk Arena Jan. 16 to take on their former coach, Tom Borelli, and his wrestling squad.

“It was nice to have everyone back,” said head coach Tom Borelli. “It was almost like a homecoming for wrestling. It was fun to see how everyone was doing with their team and programs.”

Not only were records on the line for the four teams competing, but a little bit of pride was on the line as well. CMU’s head coach Borelli came up with the idea for the winning coach to buy the rest of the coaches’ dinner. Borelli’s boys were victorious, going 3-0 and giving him the bill at Mountain Town Restaurant.

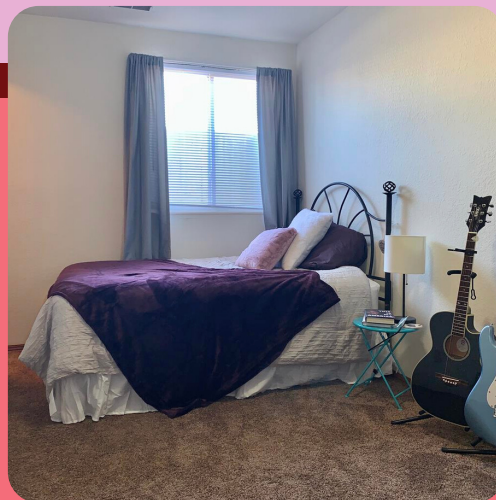
“I wanted to get everyone together and talk before everyone left. Usually with a situation like this, there is some good nature and banter that goes on,” Borelli said.

For the first time, Borelli faced off against Luke Smith of CSU Bakersfield as a head coach and Scotti Sentes as a head coach for Campbell. The third opponent, American, was coached by Borelli’s son Jason. It wasn’t the first meeting between father and son, but it was special nonetheless.

“We’ve seen (Smith and Sentes) in tournaments, but never in a dual meet like this” Borelli said, “So that was fun to actually go one on one with them.”

The Chippewas dominated the day. After beginning the day with dominant wins over Smith and Jason’s squads, Borelli and company squared off with Sentes’ No. 25 ranked Campbell team. It was a back and forth affair, with CMU ultimately winning the meet 19-15 to finish an undefeated 3-0.

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RETURNS HOME

s, now coaches, bring teams to McGuirk Arena; CMU sweeps Chippewa Challenge

Borelli said he was excited to see his former athletes and was proud of their performance as coaches.

“I feel a lot of pride. I think in some way, I had a little bit of influence of them being in the situation they are in and it’s nice to see them being successful,” he said, “And even outside of wrestling Jason, Scotti, and Luke sometimes reach out to me for advice, not only coaching wise but leadership wise, personal situations.”

The first time facing off against each other was fun and light-hearted. Of course, each team wanted to win, but it was about getting everyone together and having a good time while also getting things done on the mat. Borrelli looks forward to matchups like this in the future.

“I think in the future if we can keep this going, it’s going to be really competitive as the programs grow” Borrelli said

The son of Tom Borelli, Jason was once an assistant coach for the Chippewas wrestling squad. While coaching here at CMU, he was a part of the Mid-American Championship in the 2007 season. Aside from his work off the mat, Jason made a name for himself as wrestler at CMU. He was a four-year starter, was part of the MAC championship team five times, and qualified for the NCAA Championships twice (2005 and 2006). His final year of CMU, he captained the CMU wrestling team.

During his time here at CMU, Luke received the nickname “Lightning” Luke Smith due to the fact he recorded the two fastest pins in Central Michigan history, one at 11 seconds and the other one at 13 seconds.

During his senior year at CMU, he led the Chippewas to a No. 2 national ranking and was a four-time

NCAA qualifier while being ranked fourth in the country at 125 pounds.

Scotti won MAC titles in 2009 and 2011 during his wrestling career here at CMU. He was 17-1 in MAC competition, a two time All American and four-time NCAA qualifier during his time with the Chippewas. Sentes competed at the NCAA finals his freshman year, coming in seventh and his junior year coming in fourth.

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Fifty eight prospective students receive full-ride scholarship by mistake; university claims issue with testing messaging system

By Staff Reports

Call it a reversal of fortune: CMU will now offer 58 prospective students an award equivalent to a full-tuition scholarship after sending them a Centralis scholarship award by mistake.

“We deeply regret the disappointment and frustration caused by the test message error in the student portal,” according to a university press release sent late Jan. 26.

On Jan. 21, 58 students received a congratulatory message saying they had won the Centralis Scholarship. That award includes a full-ride financial package of tuition and room and board.

Those emails were never meant to be sent by the admissions office. Due to an error, while testing the mes-

saging technology, students who were logged in to their student portal to check the status of their admissions application were sent the message by mistake.

One of those students was Newaygo High Schooler Parker Christensen. When he got an email saying he won the scholarship the evening of Jan. 21, Christensen said he was overwhelmed with joy.

Christensen, 17, told everyone that he would be getting a CMU degree for free. His mother, Darlene, made a Facebook post announcing how proud she was of her son and that the family was excited to celebrate.

“He was absolutely over the moon when he got the message,” Darlene said. “He was having an out-of-body moment. We all were just shaking with excitement.”

“Colleges are supposed to make your dreams come true not destroy them or make you second guess if they are achievable”

Parker Christensen

That excitement didn't last long. Two days later, he received a phone call from admissions letting him know about the email mistake.

The news was devastating. “Colleges are supposed to make your dreams come true not destroy them or make you second guess if they

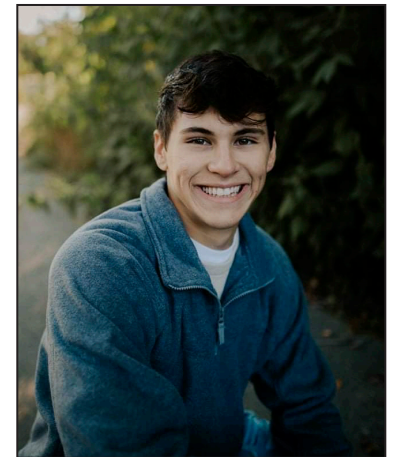
are achievable,” Christensen said.

At first, the university bumped up his Maroon and Gold scholarship by about \$3,000 per year, giving him a total of \$10,000 per year in scholarship money.

Now he will receive a full-tuition scholarship. The university statement did not say whether or not room and board would be included in the scholarship. Christensen was notified of the university's decision after Central Michigan Life reached out to him for comment for this story.

“This is the last thing I expected to happen,” Christensen said.

Faculty Association President Amanda Garrison said there now comes concerns with how much 58 full-tuition scholarships will cost the university.



Submitted photo

Parker Christensen of Newaygo is one of 58 students who will get the equivalent of a full-ride scholarship after he received that mistakenly stated he would receive a Centralis scholarship.

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MASS office announces fifteen Black health and wellness events for Black History Month

By Aurora Abraham
University Editor

The Office of Multicultural Academic Student Services (MASS) announced to social media its Black History Month calendar of events centered around Black health and wellness.

Fifteen events throughout February will include movie viewings, guest speakers and informational sessions.

While the Black health and wellness theme is set by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), MASS Interim Assistant Director Wade Tomson said the events have an intentional message.

"We kind of follow what the national theme is," he said. "For us, we chose to look at it from a wellness wheel perspective."

"A Mindful Approach," will kick things off as a two-part event beginning at 5 p.m. on Feb. 1 in Kulhavi Hall Rooms 101 and 102. In the first half, a representative from the Central Michigan University Counseling Center will discuss stigmas of mental health, and the value of having somebody to talk to.

In the second part, a yoga and mindfulness expert will talk about exercises students can use to relax.

A four-part Netflix series called "When They See Us," will be shown at 4 p.m. on Feb. 2, Feb. 9, Feb. 16 and Feb. 23.

Based on true events, the movie follows five Black and Latino teenagers who were convicted of raping a white woman in Manhattan in 1989.

"It's very powerful," Tomson said. "There's a lot to unpack with this and I've heard that some of the sections are very, very heavy and can cause a pretty strong reaction. So (we wanted) to give students some space to fully embrace one and then be prepared for the next one."

The event at 5 p.m. on Feb. 7 called "Racial Wealth Gap," will be sponsored by Financial Wellness Collaborative. Participants will discuss what causes it and what can be done to end it.

"Black Hair Care," will start at 7 p.m. on Feb. 8 and discuss various approaches to care for black hair as an extension of a project started last year.

The rest of the events are listed in the photo above.

MASS is also collecting non-perishable goods for an ongoing food drive at the Center for Student Inclusion and Diversity in the Bovee University Center 108.

More details will be available on MASS's Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

City commission addresses changes in fire department equipment, airport staffing

By Collin Periatt
Staff Reporter

Mount Pleasant City Commission approved a bid to supply the Mount Pleasant Fire Department with upgraded radio equipment, and approved staffing and fee changes for the Mount Pleasant Municipal Airport at its Jan. 24 meeting.

The commission approved a bid from ProComm Inc. and Michigan's Public Safety Communication System (MPSCS) Programming which will provide the fire department with 28 portable radios, 14 mobile radios, 30 pagers and a base station radio.

The Fire Services County-Wide Radio System is made up of four separate radio towers that use analog VHF. The goal is to transition to 800 MHz radios that use MPSCS.

MPSCS is a communication system used by local, state, federal, tribal and private first responders.

"We came to a pretty strong consensus that this was something that was really important to invest in," Vice Mayor Olivia Cyman said.

The project's total cost will be \$218,460, which would be paid for in part by a grant contribution from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for

\$111,299. The remaining \$107,161 would be paid for using the city's capital improvement fund.

Mount Pleasant Municipal Airport Manager Bill Brickner went before the commission to request approval to airport staffing and fee changes, as well as a budget amendment for \$12,600.

The current method of corporate fees at Mount Pleasant Municipal Airport is a flat fee that all companies must pay at the same rate.

Brickner said the airport should move to a size-based fee system for the runways and corporate hangers to allow for more revenue. This would also include a new usage fee for larger aircrafts.

Currently, Brickner is the only full-time employee alongside two part-time employees. He is looking for more help to operate the airport after hours and on the weekends.

"In 2016, we were somewhere around 45,000 gallons (of fuel sales) total," Brickner said. "This past year, we were almost to 60,000 gallons total. As you can see traffic is increasing (and) the need for additional staff is increasing."

The proposed changes in fees will "help offset the cost" of promoting one part-time employee to full time, Brickner said.

The city commission approved of these changes and the budget amendment.

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Three transfers leaves Chippewas women's basketball short-handed

By: Sean Chase
Staff Reporter

Amid its longest stretch of losses this season, Central Michigan (3-14, 1-7) women's basketball will have to rely on freshman production after losing three members of its 2020 recruiting class to the transfer portal.

The Chippewas' wave of transfers began on Jan. 17, with Rachel Loobie and Maryama Turkstra entering the portal. Four days later, Sydney Graber followed them.

Loobie began her sophomore campaign as a key reserve for CMU. Appearing in seven games during the 2021-22 season, she finished with 13 rebounds, eight points and four steals.

Originally from Indianapolis,

Indiana, Loobie appeared in 23 games over two seasons for the Chippewas, recording 33 points, 43 rebounds and seven steals.

After receiving four-star recognition from ESPN, Graber arrived on campus for the 2020 season. In her first campaign, Graber recorded career-highs in points with five and rebounds with three.

Seeing time in 25 games over two years, Graber ends her career at CMU with 12 points, 32 rebounds and eight steals.

Hailing from, Dundas, Ontario in Canada, Turkstra came off the bench for the Chippewas. During two seasons in Mount Pleasant, she appeared in six games and recorded one career rebound.

Carlee Crabtree is now the only member of coach Heather Oesterle's 2020 recruiting class remaining with the program. The Coldwater native has played 46 minutes and scored two points across 10 games this season.

The Chippewas have been forced to lean on their five freshmen due to the departures. Tiana Timpe, Lisa Tesson and Hanna Knoll have each started games, while Rebekah Gordon and Karrington Gordon have seen increased playing time.

Midway through MAC play and riding a six-game losing streak, CMU will take the floor with 10 players for the remainder of the season. The Chippewas return to action at 7 p.m. Jan. 26 vs. Miami (Ohio).



Nate Pappas | Staff Photographer
Head coach Heather Oesterle talks to her team during a time out, Jan. 13 in McQuirk Arena.

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Central Michigan Life's editorial and business offices are located at 436 Moore Hall, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859, telephone (989) 774-3493 or 774-LIFE.

404 PAGE NOT FOUND

"Sorry, we cannot find your page... this is nuts!"

WHAT HAPPENED?

Administrators must answer for botched launch of website

EDITORIAL

On the first day of the Spring 2022 semester, students were greeted by a few too many squirrels for January.

Instead of climbing trees around campus, they appeared on error messages on the newly redesigned cmich.edu website. After about the six or seventh image of a gasping squirrel, it was clear something really was nuts.

CMU's new website was broken.

Reports of missing content, bad links and crashes flooded social media. All the marketing information showed up fine - but things like event calendars, applications and other pages students check daily were nowhere to be found.

At the Jan. 18 Academic Senate meeting, faculty expressed shock and disappointment about the website's condition.

"In a time of dwindling enrollment, this is a slip-up we cannot afford," Senator John Allen said at the Jan. 18 meeting. "It is a woefully underprepared website and I think the students have recognized this."

He's right, we did. It wasn't difficult to notice.

The question is: Why go live with a website that isn't 100 percent complete and functional? Did we get our money's worth for the \$4.5 million we budgeted for this project?

It was no surprise that problems with the website took up much of the conversation

at the Academic Senate meeting. What was surprising was the tone of the response given to faculty by Vice President for Marketing and Communication John Veilleux.

After multiple faculty members stated concerns with the website - including one who reported missing information for incoming graduate students - many faculty members have said Veilleux's comments were dismissive of the criticism and bordered on derision.

He said faculty were supposed to communicate with their "department collaborators" to transfer content to the new website. He compared it to students turning in their homework late.

It was a bizarre comparison.

The Academic Senate meeting should've been administration reassuring faculty and providing solutions - at the very least connecting them to the right people. Instead, it was pointing fingers.

We're three weeks into the semester.

While things have certainly improved since the first day of classes, there are still glaring issues.

Issues like these need to be fixed - immediately. No more pointing fingers. No more blame games.

A line of communication must be established to fix the remaining website issues as soon as possible.

University Communications has already taken a step in the right direction by sending out an email to campus Jan. 24 with instructions for reporting functionality issues.

According to the email, CMU students, faculty and staff can report issues to the OIT Helpdesk through an online form. The email also included a list of the website collaborators for faculty to consult about missing content.

Too bad this information wasn't brought to the meeting as a solution for the frustrated faculty.

First impressions mean something.

What are your first impressions as a prospective student or parent of a prospective student to a website that doesn't work? Chances are you may think this institution is not professional and can't be taken seriously.

Pictures of confused squirrels certainly don't help with our image.

The only thing worse than turning in an assignment late, is turning in an assignment that's incomplete - because you already know you're destined to fail.



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NO FARE IS COLLECTED AT  &  BUS STOPS

MAROON

Southpoint/Winchester	:15	:45	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Village at Bluegrass	:21	:51	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
University Meadows	:25	:55	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Union Square	:29	:59	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Target			UPON REQUEST
Music Bldg. - Lot#33	:42	:12	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Washington/Ojibway	:44	:14	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Anspach/Pearce	:45	:15	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Ronan/Grawn	:47	:17	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Main St./Gaylord	:48	:18	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
MMC/DOAN CENTER	:55	:25	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Washington/Clayton	:05	:35	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Larzalere	:06	:36	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Wightman	:07	:37	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Park Library	:08	:38	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Music Bldg. - Lot#33	:12	:42	EVERY 1/2 HOUR

GOLD

SAC/McGuirk	:13	:43	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Stadium Mall			UPON REQUEST
TJ Maxx			UPON REQUEST
Walmart			UPON REQUEST
Copper Beech	:26	:56	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
The Reserve	:28	:58	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Jamestown	:30	:00	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Yorkshire Commons	:33	:03	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Music Bldg. - Lot#33	:42	:12	EVERY 1/2 HOUR

DEERFIELD

TOWERS @7/11	:15	:45	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Westpoint Village	:18	:48	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Deerfield Village	:20	:50	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Lexington Ridge	:25	:55	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Theunissen Stadium Lot#70	:27	:57	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Kewadin Village	:29	:59	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
SAC/McGuirk	:30	:00	EVERY 1/2 HOUR
Music Bldg. - Lot#33	:42	:12	EVERY 1/2 HOUR

EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2021

COMMUTER SHUTTLE:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

8:00PM & 10:30PM RETURN FROM PARK LIBRARY TO APT. COMPLEXES ONLY

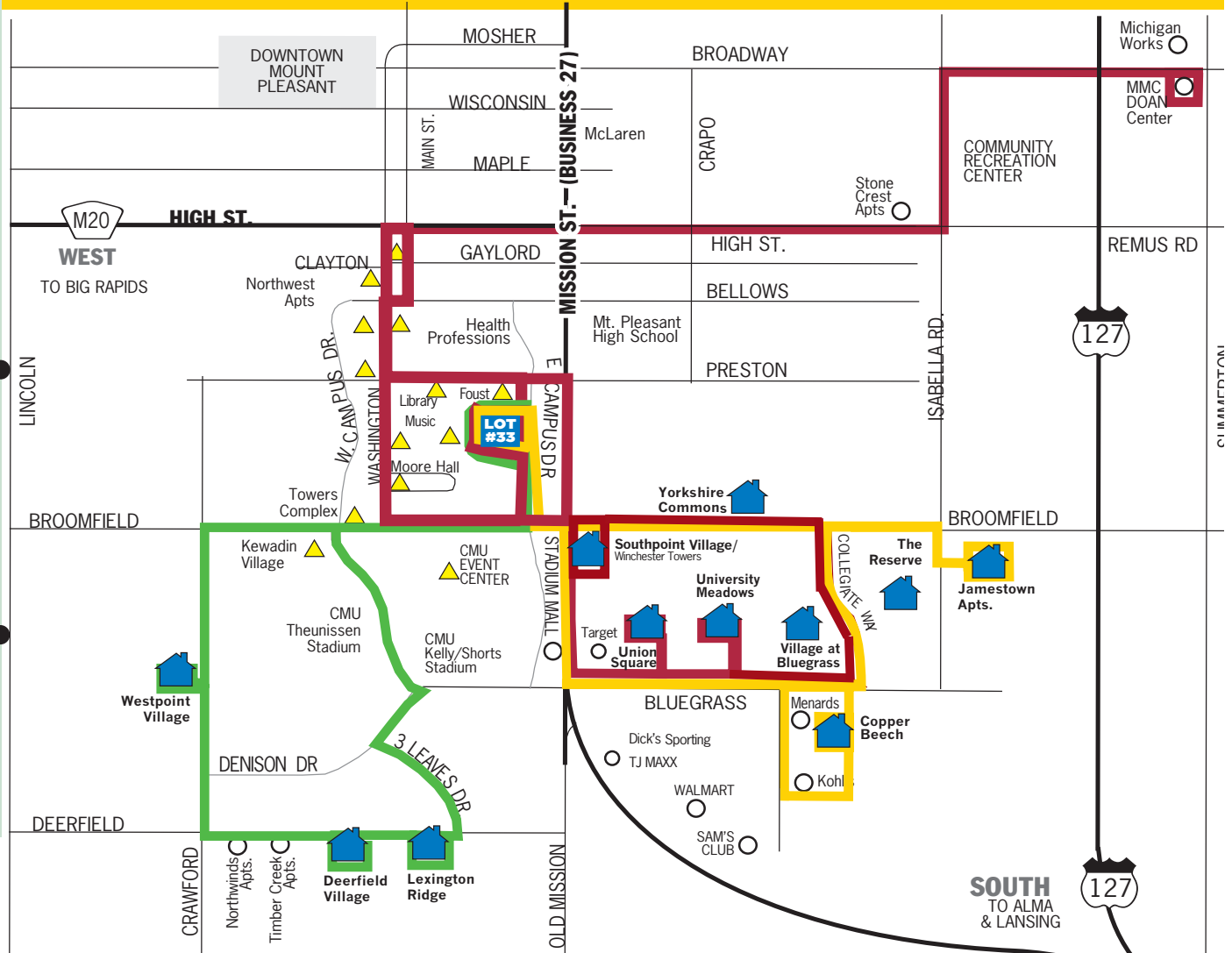
REQUEST STOPS: ○ REGULAR FARE \$2.00

EVERY HALF HOUR SHUTTLE STOPS:

▲ BUS STOPS
No fare collected/prepaid stops by contract with our partners

🏠 APARTMENT COMPLEX STOPS
Rides for residents prepaid by complex

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WHEN CMU CLASSES ARE IN SESSION



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