Angela Miller & Her Family
Have a Lot to Celebrate!

by David C. Butty

The year 2024 will be a year that Angela Miller and her family will forever remember. Both Angela and her son received their degrees respectively — Angela, her Associate of Applied Science in Nursing from Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) and her son, received his Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor just one month apart.

But there is a special offer that was the icing on the cake when Angela received the news that she was selected as the recipient of the ANA-Michigan Exceptional Promise Award. The invitation simply read, “Congratulations! You have been selected as this year’s recipient for the ANA-Michigan Exceptional Promise Award. ANA-Michigan is fortunate to bestow this merited recognition to professionals like you, and it is our honor to have talented and dedicated professionals like you, and it is our". She was so honored to receive a nomination, but did not expect to receive the award," she said.

“I called immediately my husband, and told him the news. He was ecstatic,” said Angela who will receive her Associate Degree of Applied Science in Nursing when Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) holds its Fifty fourth annual commencement exercises at Ford Field in Detroit, on June 8, 2024. The program will begin at 11:00 am. This year’s keynote speaker will be Hill Harper, Actor, Author and Humanitarian. The last time I attended school was high school, when I graduated from Romulus Senior High School in 1997. I relied heavily on being detail oriented. Navigating pre-reqs/co-reqs was manageable while working full-time." The nursing program was a game changer. I had to readjust not only work life, but my personal life. Juggling pitfalls of college obligations was very challenging. I had to readjust not only work life, but my personal life. Angela had to juggle all the pitfalls while working full-time. I chose to complete my co-reqs prior to the start of the nursing program so that I would be able to solely focus on nursing classes, if accepted.”

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The nursing program was a game changer. I had to readjust not only work life, but my personal life. I was less available to family and friends while working full-time. I chose to complete my co-reqs prior to the start of the nursing program so that I would be able to solely focus on nursing classes, if accepted.”

Among the crowd at Ford Field cheering this year’s graduates will be Angela’s family. “Having my husband, children, family and close friends at my graduation means the world to me.” Angela said there is no secret but that she learned a lesson from one of her professors. “One of my nursing professors shared with us the importance of knowing the "type of learner" you are. There are many free on-line tests that will assess your learning style, you can use this to inform your study methods. I am a kinesthetic learner. Reading, and studying for endless hours, does not help me retain information, much less process it. I need to see, touch and hear, but take frequent, disciplined breaks.”

When she is not studying or tending to family matters, Angela will be tending the flowers in her garden. “I love gardening and especially love to grow items that support the dwindling Monarch Butterfly population.”

Angela's journey to the finishing line at WCCCD began in 2021. "I enrolled in the AAS program in January of 2021 with the goal of applying to the nursing program. I carefully planned out the order of pre-reqs and co-reqs so that I would be eligible to apply for the May 15, 2022 deadline. This meant I had to take on average 7 credit hours per semester, including sum-