

Wellen top graduating senior in math at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)



2013 IVHS graduate Natalie Wellen (left) and U.S. Senator Ron Wyden Wednesday April 26. Wellen along with 60 college students nationwide went to visit congress.

The following is from an interview with Wellen by WPI for being the top math student:

Why did you pick the branch of science you are in?

"The first reason I chose to study mathematics was because I found it fun and relaxing. As I continued to study it though, I fell in love with what I recently heard described as 'the unreasonable effectiveness of mathematics.' I love how mathematics can be used to take something complicated in the world and create models that help us understand some of the simple factors that lead to complex results."

What are the biggest misperceptions people have about scientists?

"I think one of the biggest misperceptions people have is that scientists work alone or don't prefer to be social. This is very wrong. In the field of mathematics people enjoy getting to know one another at conferences and working together on research problems. Just browsing through journal articles one sees that there are often multiple authors, and the same person will often work with a wide variety of other researchers."

What's something you do that reminds you that you are an #ActualLivingScientist?

"Right now I am working on my senior research project where I am trying to make a model of a financial trading system to determine if our financial regulations work the way we expect. Being able to take something we have very little information on and figuring out how to make useful predictions reminds me how amazing it is to be an #actuallivingscientist."

I am a scientist and I.....

"question the world I live in."

How do you hope your scientific contributions will impact the world?

"My dream job is to work in public policy. I want to use the mathematics I have learned and will learn to create models so that we know what kinds of regulations best meet our goals."

How has WPI prepared you to become an #ActualLivingScientist?

"I have met so many amazing professors and students at WPI who have helped me learn and grow as a mathematician and a human being. Further, WPI has already given me a chance to start living my dream because the research I am working on is modeling a part of the financial sector to test our public policies and see how they work."

PATROL ...

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*A shady motorist ducked down a driveway in the 6000 block of Rockydale Road at 2:18 p.m. The home owner allowed the deputy to search their property, but not their house.

*JCSO provided community oriented policing (COP) service at 202 S. Redwood Hwy. at 2:50 p.m.

*At 3:41 p.m. a fellow was driving through an easement at his property in the 3300 block of Rockydale Road when he encountered a chap driving a tractor and dumping root balls. When the fellow stated that he was going to call law enforcement because the chap was trespassing, the other guy threw his phone in the mud. Then he kned him in the head and hit his head against the window. Both parties gave conflicting stories to the deputy, so there was not enough evidence to prove a crime. There was no serious injury, and it appeared to be mutual combat, so they were advised to go through civil court for property disputes.

*Neighbors in the 4700 block of Holland Loop were bothering nearby residents by shooting firearms throughout the day and in the early morning hours. The gunfire was tagged as beyond available resources (BAR) by JCSO. The citizen was advised to call back if she was being threatened, or if the shooting was indeed putting people at risk of injury or death.

*Department of Motor Vehicles could not locate records regarding new license plates on a vehicle that was pulled over by a deputy in the 300 block of Stevenson Street at 4:48 p.m.

*A motorist in a white Toyota Camry was warned for no blinker in the 200 block of Stevenson Street at 4:53 p.m.

*At 5 p.m. a driver near the intersection of Terrace Drive and S. Junction Avenue was cited for driving on a suspended license. He was warned for defective lighting, failure to obey a traffic control device, and no proof of insurance or registration.

Outside the Valley

*Twenty-seven entries.

Thursday, April 27

*A child phoned 911 from the 100 block of N. Old Stage Road at 12:11 p.m. The mother was counseled to remove the battery from the phone, rather than tying up a 911 line.

*At 4:21 p.m. a 40 or 50-year-old guy had been lying in the empty lot at 406 S. Redwood Hwy. for about an hour, but no one wanted to go check on him. Illinois Valley Fire District responded, only to find that he was just sleeping.

*SOS reported an alarm at a marijuana grow site in the 5100 block of Caves Hwy. at 5:48 p.m. It was logged as

BAR.

Outside the Valley

*Twenty-three incidents.

Friday, April 28

*At 3:04 p.m. a menacing incident was reported involving neighbors in the 1100 block of Dick George Road. The disturbance apparently started the night before when a woman threw a knife across a fence at a guy in the 5100 block of Holland Loop. He was struck in the leg, but did not get cut because the knife handle hit him. The next day she had another knife, and was also pointing a gun at a church and a neighbor who was mowing her lawn. A deputy warned them all to leave each other alone, and advised them of their additional options. (Plastic cutlery?)

*The guy in the 5100 block of Holland Loop who claimed he was hit with a knife, allegedly represented himself as law enforcement. When a deputy contacted him during the event, the fellow had a pair of kid's handcuffs attached to his belt buckle. He was warned for impersonating a police officer.

*SOS reported an alarm at 5:24 p.m. in the 5400 block of Thompson Creek Road.

Outside the Valley

*Fifteen listings.

Saturday, April 29

*At 9:04 a.m., an alarm was activated at Wheels A Turmin Garden Supply in the 900 block of Caves Hwy.

*Nothing unusual could be heard during a 911 call from the 100 block of Patton Bar Road at 9:44 a.m.

*Lake Selmac was patrolled at 10:21 a.m.

*Two canines were attacking a pig in the 23000 block of Redwood Hwy. at 12:24 p.m. Animal Control was advised.

*Two months ago, someone left a vehicle on a friend's property in the 1700 block of Lone Mountain Road, but never returned. The vehicle was not listed as stolen, so it was suggested that the land owner have it towed if not claimed.

Outside the Valley

*Nineteen items.

Sunday, April 30

*An alarm was triggered at 9:24 a.m. in an exterior seed shed in the 400 block of Caves Hwy.

*A youngster in the 4000 block of Dick George Road was playing with a telephone at 10:08 a.m., and dialed 911. There was no emergency.

*The driver of a gold-colored Toyota Tundra was warned for speeding and failure to carry registration at 10:26 a.m. near Redwood Hwy. and Gold Canyon Drive.

*A motorist in a white Nissan Versa was warned for speeding on Redwood Hwy. near Wild Park Lane at 10:34 a.m.

*A white Grand Am was parked halfway into the street near Shadowbrook

Drive and E. River Street at 11:14 a.m. DMV records provided the address of the car's owner, and he was advised to move his vehicle.

*At 11:28 a.m. a deputy contacted a dude near the skate park at Jubilee Park.

*JCSO patrolled Jubilee Park at 11:32 a.m. The occupant of a Dodge minivan was OK, but then a suspect fled on a quad towards Lorna Byrne Middle School. A deputy located the quad, which had been stolen from the 200 block of S. Kerby Avenue, and returned it to the rightful owner.

*A deputy did not find who he was looking for at 12:39 p.m. in the 100 block of Dogwood Lane.

*A gal was driving a black sedan with no front license plate at 12:52 p.m. at the end of S. Old Stage Road, but she was OK other than that.

*A motorist was collared for a defective windshield at 12:54 p.m. near Caves Hwy. and Dogwood Lane.

*JCSO deputies were out with two people on a golf cart at 1:03 p.m. at St. Matthias Episcopal Church.

*A devious driver ducked into the Shop Smart Food Warehouse parking lot at 1:41 p.m.

*The operator of a black Land Rover was pulled over at 112 S. Redwood Hwy. at 1:46 p.m. He was cited for driving with a suspended license and failure to carry proof of insurance. He was warned for no front license plate and failure to carry proof of registration.

*COP service was provided at 130 N. Redwood Hwy. at 2 p.m.

*Three teens were spotted running through the football and soccer fields of Evergreen Elementary School after an alarm sounded at 3:24 p.m. There was an open door in a back building used for the Illinois Valley Branch of the Boys and Girls Club of Rogue Valley.

*At 3:55 p.m. a deputy talked with three teenaged gals in the 100 block of Ollis Road, regarding the alarm at Evergreen Elementary School. One juvenile claimed that she and her friends checked the door because it did not appear completely secure, which resulted in the activation of the alarm. The incident appeared accidental, but a deputy made it quite clear that if anything turned up missing, he would be in further contact.

*A motorist in a black Honda Civic was warned for not wearing a seatbelt at 5:03 p.m. on Caves Hwy. near N. Old Stage Road.

*JCSO hooked a criminal at SE Fork Bridge at 5:35 p.m. Cody Lee Weaver, 26, was detained at Josephine County Jail for state-wide felony warrants. He was charged with failure to appear for possession of meth, and resisting arrest.

Outside the Valley

*Fifteen items.



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Illinois Valley Fire Protection- Ballot Measure 17-78

Jo Co Sheriff Protection – Ballot Measure 17-80

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Carol Dickson

Incumbent Position 1
Illinois Valley Fire District Board

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