

The Jambar

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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Kilcawley renovations postponed, funds to be used elsewhere

Doug Livingston
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Five days before construction was set to begin, Youngstown State University officials, including President Cynthia Anderson, announced that the anticipated \$10 million Kilcawley Center renovation will be postponed for three years. After falling short of necessary finances to thoroughly complete the project, a decision was made to use the funds to renovate other campus buildings.

"It was going to cost more than we had," said Director of University Communications Ron Cole. "[The project] had to be reviewed honestly, and I think that's what the president and her staff did."

The decision was made after YSU officials met with architects and engineers to review the project cost.

Jack Fahey, ombudsperson and interim vice president for student affairs, said the project would have cost \$2 million more than the budget allowed.

With \$10 million in bond funding, the remainder of the \$13.7 million cost could not be supplemented by revenue from a new food contract in Kilcawley and excess money from other campus projects, such as construction of Williamson Hall and tentative restoration of Pollock House.

The Kilcawley renovation is the second project in three months to stall under funding issues. Pollock House is awaiting new bids in June for con-

struction after costs assessed in March exceeded expectations by nearly \$1.5 million. Officials from YSU facilities said that a significant redesign of the Pollock House restoration would bring the project cost down and within budget.

Still, much has been invested in the Kilcawley renovation.

After paying WTW Architects \$751,000, YSU officials plan to retain and implement the Kilcawley plans in three years. The \$10 million in bond funding will be used to renovate four academic buildings, including the 35-year-old Cushwa Hall.

Dean Joseph Mosca of the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services, housed in Cushwa, has been waiting for these funds for more than half of his two years at YSU. Mosca, like other deans, cited heating and cooling, cleanliness and space issues in campus buildings.

"It's great for our college," Mosca said, surprised by the decision to redirect funding. "I'm delighted to have the opportunity to renovate the building."

The first-floor math department, moving to the Lincoln Building, will be replaced by the dean's office in an effort to centralize the many departments housed in Cushwa.

Other academic buildings benefiting from the stalled Kilcawley project are DeBartolo and Bliss halls. The university is also considering expansion and improvement of the College of Science,

Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, housed in Moser and Ward Beecher halls.

In September, Sightlines, a facilities asset advisory firm, reported to the YSU Board of Trustees that 85 percent of campus facilities are more than 25 years old, reaching the end of their useful life cycle.

Fahey and other officials are happy to provide much needed renovations for neglected buildings across campus. While he is reluctant to "lose momentum" on the Kilcawley project, he did say that the centralized student center is in much better shape than other campus buildings. The center's upkeep may have influenced the decision to not renovate it.

"They're almost being penalized for doing a good job," Fahey said. "The bottom line was in terms of aesthetics. Kilcawley Center is very clean. It's very well kept, although it's not as functional."

Functionality is a factor that resulted in Kilcawley's inflated project budget. Manager Chris Morrone at CJL Engineering, a firm that worked with WTW Architects and YSU on plan reviews, said there was "no smoking gun" in the overall design scheme that pushed the project over budget limitations. But an expansion of the food court played a major role in elevating cost, he said.

Richard White, associate director of planning and construction, said expanding and

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Search committee interviews applicants for VP for student affairs

Jordan D. Uhl
NEWS EDITOR

Interviews and open forums were held earlier this month to determine the next vice president for student affairs at Youngstown State University.

The two candidates, Clarice Ford and Jack Fahey, were subjected to questions from university Cabinet members and deans before fielding inquiries from the general public.

Ford, associate dean of student services and director of the diversity center at the University of Illinois at Springfield, was interviewed May 10, and she said it went "quite well."

"It was a wonderful opportunity. Everyone was very friendly," she said.

Ford said she's right for the job because this would be her career coming full circle. Ford spent a year as YSU's diversity coordinator from 2000-2001.

"It's no coincidence that I'm here. I believe that I am supposed to be here. I believe that this is a part of my purpose," Ford said.

Fahey's interview was the following week, on May 17. As interim vice president for student affairs and ombudsperson, Fahey has spent the past 31 years at YSU and has developed relationships with his colleagues along the way.

Both answered similar questions, with topics including veterans affairs, the budget deficit and possible solutions, student retention and increasing enrollment.

Fahey said that increasing enrollment while maintaining student retention would provide the university with the financial boost needed to overcome the deficit. Ford didn't illustrate a specific solution for resolving budget issues. However, she touted her experience dealing with similar issues at Illinois-Springfield.

"The state of Illinois is the second [poorest] state in America. I most definitely understand about budget cuts," she said. "I oversee a \$7.5 million budget right now. We bring in revenue of \$2.5 million and resident life is \$6.5 million, so we do have money coming into our institution."

Fahey said implementing retention software, which would provide professors and staff members with information about students, would raise the retention rate.

The two candidates boasted long lists of professional acco-

INTERVIEWS PAGE 2



FORD



YSU President Cynthia Anderson and Carl Nunziato, a YSU alumnus, former vice president for National City Bank and a member of the YSU Veterans Advisory Council, present the wreath. Also in the photo to the far left are Dave Olekshuk (Air Force), a network services technician at YSU and a member of the YSU Veterans Advisory Council, and Paul Hageman (Army) a member of the YSU Armed Forces Student Association. Photos courtesy of Youngstown State University.



"The opportunity to lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was one of the greatest honors bestowed on this university throughout its history. The day was perfect in every way. It was truly a privilege to honor our veterans. We were surrounded by YSU family and friends. I don't believe there was a dry eye among any of us. It was a very emotional ceremony. We were able to visit with approximately 75 YSU alumni from the Washington, D.C., area who continue to be very proud of their university."

-YSU
President
Cynthia
Anderson



NEWS BRIEFS

YSU, SMARTS receive federal recognition

Recognized for the SMARTS program—or Students Motivated by the Arts—and its impact on the community, YSU has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the second consecutive year. This is the highest federal recognition that a college or university can receive for its dedication to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement. YSU is among just four public universities in Ohio to be named to the Honor Roll. Created in 1997 as an arts education project, SMARTS offers students in grades kindergarten to 12 free classes in visual arts, music, dance, theater and creative writing.

POLICE BRIEFS

Nude man attempts building break-ins along Wick

On May 16, a YSU police officer noticed a nude man between Maag Library and the Butler Institute of American Art. While running after the man, the officer requested other units for assistance. The officer questioned the man who said he had been released from St. Elizabeth Health Center earlier in the day and lived in the sewers for warmth. When questioned, the man said he needed medication but didn’t have any. He added that he left his clothes in some bushes. The wet clothes were later found outside Maag Library, where officers observed muddy footprints on a window. The officers said the subject probably tried to enter the building by kicking the window. The man said he tried to break into other buildings along Wick Avenue, including the McDonough Museum of Art, St. John’s Episcopal Church and the Arms Family Museum of Local History. YSU police officers did not find any signs of damage or forced entry. The man was issued a criminal trespass warning, which he could not sign due to his mental state, and he was sent back to St. Elizabeth Health Center.

Janitor discovers mess in Cushwa restroom

On May 19, a YSU janitor in Cushwa Hall reported human feces smeared on the mirror, sink, countertop and floor of a third-floor men’s restroom. The janitor said she was inside the ladies’ restroom when she heard someone slam the men’s restroom door with a bang. She then heard someone running down the north stairwell. When the janitor walked into the men’s restroom to investigate, she noticed the word “poop” smeared on the mirror, as well as the toilet stuffed with human feces and toilet paper.

CLASSIFIEDS

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KILCAWLEY PAGE 1

moving the Chestnut Room to the second floor to open up the entire first floor for a student food court area proved too costly, even with bids reasonably priced around \$85 per square foot.

“In this time of scarce resources, it is imperative that we direct our attention and funding to areas that are most critical to the academic excellence of the institution and the success of our students,” Anderson said in the YSU press release.

“We have done a great job over the past several years upgrading the curb appeal of the campus,” Anderson said. “We must now focus on the condition of the interiors of our facilities and especially our academic buildings.”

White said YSU would have a better understanding of when the renovations to DeBartolo, Bliss, Cushwa, Moser and Ward Beecher halls will occur within the next few weeks.

INTERVIEWS PAGE 1

—mplishments and educational achievements. Ford, unlike Fahey, boasts a doctoral degree.

“There was a time that I believe that you didn’t need a doctorate [for] working with student affairs. But after the last eight years that whole circle has changed where it is almost a requirement,” Ford said.

She said this would also provide her with the opportunity to teach.

Fahey said his experience working with YSU President Cynthia Anderson, while sharing her philosophy, gives him an edge when implementing the YSU 2020 Strategic Plan. Removal of the word “interim” from his current title would make it more feasible.

Fahey is not sure he will seek another term as campus ombudsperson if he were appointed to vice president of student affairs.

“I’m not sure,” he said. “I was not pleased with my performance this year. At the time, it’s not decided yet.”

The search committee, which is headed by associate general counsel Greg Morgione, initially reviewed 15 applicants and narrowed the field to two candidates.

The final decision is left up to Anderson, who is expected to make a decision within the next seven to 10 days.

YSU seeks damages from former treasurer

Jordan D. Uhl
NEWS EDITOR

For the seventh time since 2003, the Association of Classified Employees at Youngstown State University will appear in court, this time filing suit against its former treasurer Carol Hovanes.

Hovanes, a media technical assistant at Maag Library, served as the union’s treasurer. She is accused of misappropriating up to \$17,233.71 in union funds.

A memo sent from ACE members to Dean P. Wyman, special assistant U.S. attorney of the U.S. Trustee Program, alleges that Hovanes’ replacement, Kimberly Jenkins, began an audit after Hovanes’

resignation. According to the document, Hovanes “instructed Ms. Jenkins to begin [her audit] with ‘fresh numbers’” and “acknowledge[d] misappropriating funds.”

The memo, written by unidentified ACE members, raises questions regarding the personal relationship between Brennan, Hovanes and ACE First Vice President Charlene Yusko, and how it may have influenced a delay in action against Hovanes.

Refuting both guilt and any involvement with the scandal, Hovanes said she is the victim of “false information” recently published.

“[I have] nothing to do with it. There’s people that took checks and they’re blaming me for it,” Hovanes said,

reluctant to elaborate due to pending investigation.

ACE President Brian Brennan referred all comments on the matter to the union’s legal counsel in the matter, attorney Ira Mirkin, who was unable to comment at the time.

Hovanes is seeking legal counsel, claiming attorney David Mascio as her representation. Mascio said the two are in contact but have yet to reach a contractual agreement.

A complaint was filed with the Mahoning County Court of Common Pleas on May 12, and Hovanes was served a summons on Friday but has yet to respond. She has until June 17 to act, or a motion for default judgment will be filed.

Judge R. Scott Krichbaum will hear the case.

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OUR SIDE

Project pile-up

The Jambar
EDITORIAL BOARD

RELATED STORY

Kilcawley, page 1

In three months, two YSU projects have exceeded budget. In that same time, we have started another — the M-2 parking deck renovation — as we struggle to finish construction of the WATTS.

It seems we have an urge to cannibalize resources by missing construction deadlines and underestimating renovation costs.

In reviewing the Kilcawley Center renovation, one of the two projects that exceeded budget, YSU hoped to use surplus funds from another stymied project, the Pollock House renovation, to make up a gap in funding.

The problem: There were no leftover funds as construction bids for the president's new home on Wick Avenue came in higher than expected.

After investing more than a quarter of a million dollars in planning the Kilcawley renovation project, we can only hope that three years from now those plans will still be relevant, or even economically feasible.

There is, however, good news: YSU officials have decided to use the money where it is really needed — in the academic buildings.

From DeBartolo Hall to Cushman Hall, campus is deteriorating. Heating and cooling units don't work properly. Tiles and paint peel from the floor and walls.

And the students are expected to learn among the distractions and disrepair.

Administrators are prioritizing aesthetics and utility. And we are grateful that President Cynthia Anderson has chosen the latter.

"We have done a great job over the past several years upgrading the curb appeal of the campus," Anderson said. "We must now focus on the condition of the interiors of our facilities, and especially our academic buildings."

We hope officials will expedite these new renovations, which will be unveiled in the next few weeks.

We also hope the WATTS will be open soon, and the parking deck will be ready for fall semester.

We can't afford another construction site on campus.

OUR SIDE POLICY

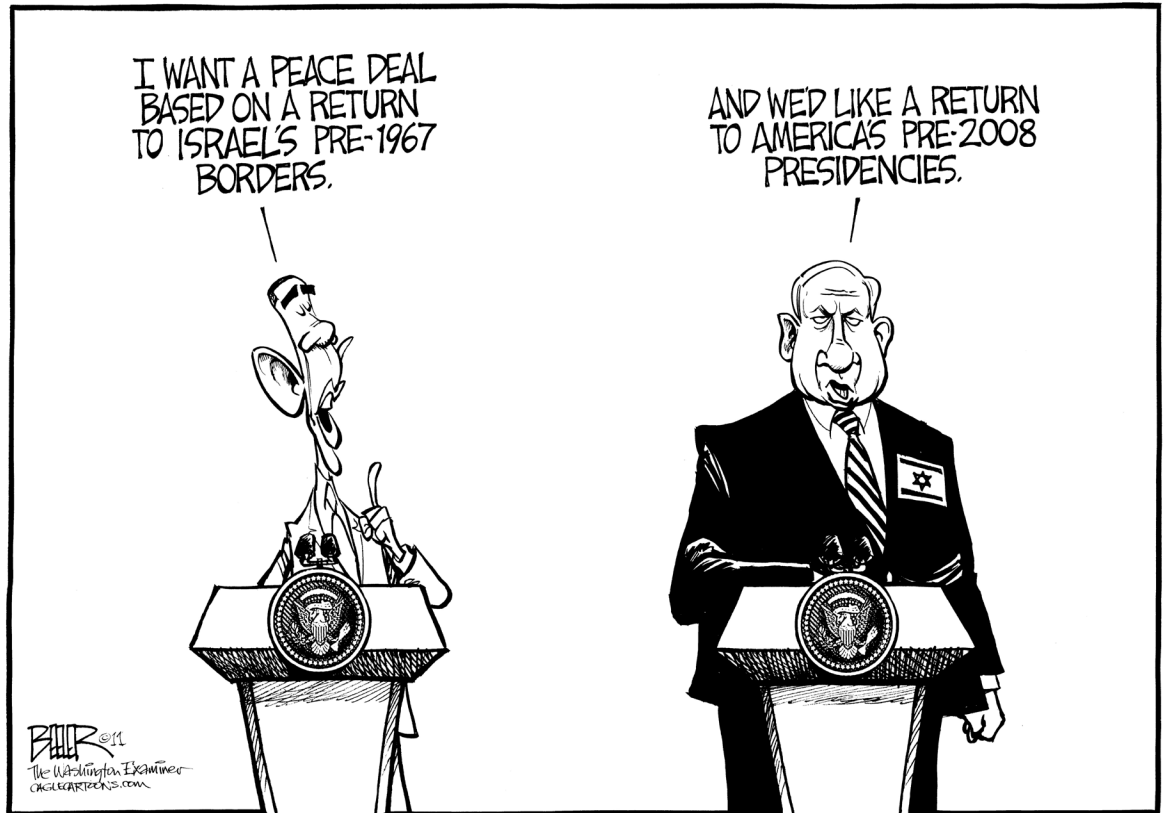
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YOUR SIDE POLICY

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The views of this artist do not necessarily agree with those of The Jambar.

YSU SPEAK

YSU Speak is a collaborative project by students in the 2011 Editorial and Opinion Writing class. This section serves as a medium to share students' views, and we invite you to do the same. Entries are written by individuals and are reviewed by the Jambar Editorial Board.

Bethany McGehee

Many lives were changed when Senate Bill 5 was introduced on Feb. 1. Educators, firefighters, policemen and public sector employees are outraged. Teachers feel that they are being targeted because they chose to be public servants. But with the passage of SB 5, they feel that they are becoming indentured servants.

SB 5 has taken away the opportunity for teachers unions to bargain for their health care benefits. More times than not, teachers and other public sector employees get paid less than those working in private sector jobs. Jeneane Hugus, teacher at Boardman Glenwood Middle School, explained that to compensate the low pay, educators often received better benefits including generous health care plans. With the passing of SB 5, teachers are now getting paid less and paying 15 percent or more into their health care costs.

It's a double whammy. Ellen Belcher, opinion pages editor for the Dayton Daily News, described Ohio as having the 16th highest total tax burden as a percentage of personal income, according to the Federation of Tax Administrators. She explained that the cuts in SB 5 would help dig Ohio out of the hole it has fallen into.

Jim DeToro, educator at Liberty's LEAD Academy, retorted Belcher's point.

"A rather large portion of the state will no longer have money to sustain the economy [because of the cuts], and you will see more defaulting of home loans," ultimately putting Ohio farther in the hole than before SB 5 was ever discussed, DeToro said.

State Sen. Kevin Bacon explained via email that SB 5 does not eliminate collective bargaining for wages, hours, terms and conditions. DeToro again creates a great point in his response to Bacon: If there is no money to negotiate for, what good is collective bargaining?

Along with lowering health care benefits, SB 5 reduces sick leave accumulation from 4.6 hours to 3.1 hours per biweekly pay period. Therefore, it takes approximately six weeks to collect enough hours for a sick day. Before the bill, it took an educator only about four weeks to earn enough credit for a sick day. SB 5 limits teachers who want to "sell back" or exchange their unused sick days for payment. They may earn only 50 percent of their payment for up to 1,000 hours. Payment will not be awarded to hours beyond the 1,000 mark.

Might as well use sick days! SB 5 does have a few positive aspects. This bill creates a maximum number of students to be assigned to a certain classroom or teacher. This number, if assigned correctly, allows teachers to have the proper amount of space and materials for each student. A teacher will no lon-

ger have to feel overwhelmed or fret over a lack of supplies. This glimmer of light within SB 5 could perhaps become a storm cloud if teachers are assigned too many students in an attempt to eliminate excess educators.

Another positive that comes from SB 5 is reforming binding arbitration. When teachers unions and the board of education are caught in a deadlock, they will not use arbitrators to solve issues. Bacon claimed the intent is to "avoid giving too much power to arbitrators, especially those who are not local and do not understand the unique issues of the local taxpayers."

"No two municipalities, villages, townships or school districts are created alike, and no two bargaining units are the same," Bacon said.

One of the biggest issues with SB 5 is hiring and firing teachers based on performance and merit. DeToro explained the nightmare that will come along with judging teachers based solely on merit. He said that teachers would compete for students who come from loving homes and have parents with the time and means to support their child's education. DeToro said students from economically disadvantaged areas do not perform as well as students who have the resources to achieve in school.

"Do you really want a National Football League type draft for our students?" he asked.

Michael Paul Goldenberg, a mathematics coach in Ann Arbor, Mich., said that rating schools and teachers on multiple-choice test scores is either "blindly ignorant of what those tests' serious limitations are in providing useful feedback to teachers, students and parents, or flat out evil, a conscious decision to ignore the facts."

Goldenberg explained that the U.S. has many great schools. He seconded DeToro's argument about great schools being in neighborhoods where there is little to no poverty and a community full of supportive parents.

One goal of SB 5 is to reward teachers who go the extra mile for their students. Goldenberg argued that picking on the entire teaching profession because of a small number of bad teachers is not going to make a single child better educated. He said the reason behind grading teachers on merit is not the concern for "great teachers." It is about getting rid of teachers with experience and those who are viewed as "too expensive" because they have tenure. Michigan, along with other states, will face this issue when trying to implement bills like SB 5.

SB 5 is the cause for many arguments and discussions within Ohio. Whichever side of the debate a person falls on, he or she is not alone. This debate is going to continue to rage on indefinitely.

In the 2012 campaign, environmentalists don't matter

McClatchy-Tribune
MCT

Soon after his party's "shel-lacking" in the midterm election, President Obama ordered government agencies to ensure that new regulations took economic growth into consideration and that old ones be revoked if they "stifle job creation or make our economy less competitive." Five months later, it's becoming pretty clear what he meant: The environment and public health will be thrown under a bus for the sake of his re-election in 2012.

The latest victim of the administration's new political direction is a proposed Environmental Protection Agency rule to limit emissions from industrial boilers, which power oil refineries, chemical plants and other factories. The EPA indefinitely rescinded the proposal last week, citing Obama's January executive order on regulations and claiming that the agency hadn't had time to properly address industry concerns about the rule since a draft was released in September. The EPA first proposed a version of the boiler rules in 2004, and it has had ample time and input to get it right by now.

Also put on a slow track by the administration are new rules on storing toxic coal ash, an issue EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said she'd address in the wake of a disastrous Tennessee spill in 2008; earlier this month, EPA officials said they wouldn't get around to finishing the rules, which were expected by the end of last year, until at least 2012. The powerful coal industry scored another victory when the administration delayed an EPA guideline on mountaintop-removal mining last month.

In the calculus of presidential politics, environmentalists don't matter in 2012. The economy is the top subject on Americans' minds, and Obama no doubt figures he can blunt criticism of his regulatory record and maybe corral some independent voters by cutting smokestack industries a little slack. Never mind that the economic calculus doesn't pencil out; according to EPA estimates, the rule on industrial boilers would cost polluters \$1.4 billion a year, but the value of its health benefits would range from \$22 billion to \$54 billion. And never mind that the rule would prevent up to 6,500 premature deaths each year.

But those are moral and financial reasons to regulate, not political ones. Here's an argument Obama and his political advisors might grasp: It's possible for a president to so alienate his base that it fails to show up on election day. Something to keep in mind before November 2012 rolls around.

Penguins head to Dayton for tournament

Nick Mancini
REPORTER

The Youngstown State University baseball team began play Wednesday in the Horizon League Tournament in Dayton.

The No. 6 Penguins opened against the No. 3 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Panthers at 3:05 p.m. at Nischwitz Stadium on the campus of Wright State University, the top seed in the tournament.

The Penguins came in with

a 12-39 overall record, 7-16 in the Horizon League.

Although they've lost six of the last seven games, the Penguins have had some success against Milwaukee this season with two of their five conference wins coming against the Panthers.

"We had a good day of practice, and hopefully it will carry into the tournament and result in some wins," coach Rich Pasquale said. "This is a good team we are playing, but we are familiar with them and hopefully that can result in a win."

"This is a good team we are playing, but we are familiar with them and hopefully that can result in a win."

-Rich Pasquale, YSU baseball head coach

With a win, the Penguins play Wright State on Thursday. With a loss, they match up against Valparaiso University, who bested Butler University on Wednesday morning in the tourney opener. Valparaiso won with a six-run fifth inning and were led by pitcher Damon McCormick, who showcased a shutout.

YSU lost to Valparaiso in the team's only showing earlier this year.

Senior pitcher Phil Klein will start for the Penguins against Milwaukee. Klein, the Horizon League strikeout leader,



ended the season with a 4-5 record in 14 starts during the regular season, compiling a 3.74 ERA with 95 strikeouts. He will be matched up against Horizon League Pitcher of the Year Chad Pierce.

Klein will be one of five seniors for the Penguins who will be playing in their final Horizon League tournament. They include outfielder Armani Johnson, pitcher Cody Dearth, outfielder Joe Iaco-

bucci and first baseman Greg Dissinger.

Pierce enters the game with a record of 6-3 and an ERA of 3.07 during the regular season. Pierce joins second baseman Cole Kraft and outfielder Doug Dekoning as all-conference players for the Panthers.

The Penguins had a final practice at Eastwood Field on Tuesday before hitting the road for Dayton.



JAMBAR FILE PHOTOS

Local government signs 'sister-city' pact

Hilary Carr
REPORTER

Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams and Warren Mayor-elect Doug Franklin met with officials from Akko, Israel, on Monday evening in Williamson Hall to sign a sister-city pact to further solidify relations between the two regions.

The Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber and the Youngstown Jewish Federation collaborated on the project, which is expected to enhance economic growth in the Mahoning Valley.

The idea for the pairing came about five years ago when officials from the Youngstown Jewish Federation joined Akron officials on a trade mission to Israel.

"What we saw about the Akron experience was that they were forging business relationships and bringing businesses back to the city of Akron and enhancing their economical opportunities," said Bonnie Deutsch Burdman of the Youngstown Jewish Federation. "We thought it was very important that we tried to do that here."

Thomas Humphries, president and CEO of the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber, said a relationship must be developed prior to doing business with someone.

"Our goal is to be able to extend our hand out to the mayor and to establish a relationship and build off that relationship," Humphries said.

The economic benefits of the pact were highlighted by many of the speakers at Monday's event. Michael Garvey, president and CEO of M-7 Technologies, has been forging partnerships with businesses in Israel since the group's first trip in January 2010.

"It helps this community's relationship with Israel in general and heightens the awareness of what some of the opportunities are and some of the similarities are," Garvey said.

Youngstown and Warren's pact with Akko is part of the Partnership with Israel program. Youngstown and Warren are part of the Central Area Consortium made up of 15 cities in the U.S. that are paired with Western Galilee, which includes Akko and the Match Asher Regional Council.

Forty-five relationships already exist within the Partnership with Israel program, like the ones between New York City and Jerusalem, and Los Angeles and Tel Aviv.

The pact has already made an educational and cultural impact on the Valley, especially at Youngstown State University and Westminster College.

Helene Sinnreich, director of Judaic and Holocaust Studies, and Matt O'Mansky, assistant professor of anthropology, led students through Israel in summer 2010. Plans are underway for nursing students and faculty to study at Western Galilee Hospital in Nahariya, Israel.

Faculty exchanges have already taken place between YSU and Western Galilee College when John Russo and Sherry Linkon from the Center for Working-Class Studies travelled to Israel. Sinnreich took part at an international conference at the college.

"The greatest impact this will have on students is providing an opportunity for some to travel to Israel and meet their peers there, or to do so virtually via online interactions," Linkon said. "Many of our students have little experience interacting with people from outside of this region, but, as the cliché goes, we live in a global era, and YSU students will benefit from broadening their perspectives."

Westminster College enjoyed the presence of Israel's Yehuda Peled this past year as a Fulbright Scholar from Western Galilee College.

Williams said, "We are excited about this partnership, the sister-city relationship. We are excited about the prospects of the economic relationships that have been established."

"The twin city agreement has effect on different areas, culture, education, but mainly economic, not only business, but a wider sense than business. That is only one aspect," said Shimon Lankri, mayor of Akko since 2003.

Just as Youngstown and Warren representatives took inspiration from Israel, Israeli representatives have taken inspiration from Youngstown and Warren, such as the new children's center for science and technology on West Federal Street.

Along with an Israeli partnership, Youngstown and Warren also signed a sister-city pact with Dezhou, China.



Warren Mayor-elect Doug Franklin, left; Akko, Israel, Mayor Shimon Lankri, center; and Youngstown Mayor Jay Williams exchange gifts at the agreement signing. Photo by Chris Cotelesse/The Jambar.



Oprah hosts last show after 25 years, leaves legacy and memories

Nikki Ericksen
REPORTER

After a quarter of a century on air and thousands of guest prizes, daytime talk show queen Oprah Winfrey is calling it quits following Wednesday's finale of "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

While the national media is buzzing over the retirement announcement made in 2009, the Youngstown State University community has mixed emotions about Winfrey's departure.

"I wasn't even aware that Oprah's show was ending," said junior Amanda Sacco.

The 57-year-old self-made millionaire is retiring after 25 years on public television. Once only a dream for an underprivileged African-American girl, Winfrey has built an empire with its own TV station and website. Not only has she donated millions of dollars to her guests and to charities, but she has also been a major influence on many African-American women.

Shanice Lockhart, the president of the Student African American Sisterhood, said that although she was not a daily viewer of "The Oprah Winfrey Show," she would miss hearing about Winfrey's endeavors.

"Oprah has empowered many women and also is an admirable role model for future generations," Lockhart said.

Dakota Fanning and 60 young "ultimate viewers" named themselves the Oprah Show Babies. Winfrey has been a constant companion in their lives, commenting and encouraging them through her TV show.

"Your voice has been the soundtrack to our lives. Every milestone, every first, you were there," Fanning said on air Tuesday.

As a young African-American woman, Winfrey worked her way up from a single radio broadcast in Ten-

nessee on Nashville's WVOL. Winfrey now publishes two magazines, The Oprah Magazine and O at Home. She also started Oprah's Book Club and a production company, Harpo Productions.

Winfrey has ensured that her legacy touches as many as possible and even started Oprah's Angel Network to help less fortunate or underprivileged individuals.

"Because of you, women everywhere have graduated to a new level of understanding what we are, of who we are and, most importantly, of who we can be," Beyonce said on Tuesday's show.

Business professionals named Oprah the highest-paid performer on television, the richest self-made woman in the U.S. and the richest African-American of the 20th century. In 2005, Business Week named her the greatest black philanthropist in American history, while in September 2002, Oprah was named the first recipient of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Bob Hope Humanitarian Award.

With multiple celebrities doing memorable things on her show, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" has remained one of the most watched TV programs in the entertainment world.

Oprah dedicated her last show to her viewers, addressing the audience on all the lessons they have taught her.

After she finished her uncharacteristically long monologue, she will be remembered by members of the YSU community for the memorable moments and her indelible impact over the past 25 years.

Some memories are carefree, and some are heartfelt.

Senior Jeff Kamovitch recalled a moment from "Talladega Nights" when Rocky Bobby, played by Will Farrell, thinks he is on fire. He starts running around in circles and he asks for help from "Jesus Christ, Yahweh, Allah, Tom Cruise and Oprah."

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