

# News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Aug. 23, 2010

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*Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:*

- **2010-11 academic year begins with Welcome Week**
- **YSU students on 25-day tour of Israel**
- **YSU-to-Thiel bike ride benefits Marty Manning**
- **Negro Spirituals concert kicks off Diversity Program Series**
- **Workshop on preserving family history set for Aug. 29**

## Calendar

**Monday, Aug. 23.** First day of fall semester classes. Welcome Week activities kick off. See details below.

**Thursday, Aug. 26, 1:30 p.m.** A sundial in memory of the late Richard Pirko, show producer and technician at the YSU Ward Beecher Planetarium, will be dedicated in a ceremony outside the planetarium.

## **New academic year begins with Welcome Week**

Youngstown State University kicks off the 2010-11 academic year with a Welcome Week of "heroic" proportions. The superhero-themed week runs during the first week of classes, which starts today, Monday, Aug. 23.

Highlights of Welcome Week include:

### **Monday, Aug. 23**

- **Superhero Recall**  
6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center  
Guess names of superheroes for a chance to win a Nikon CoolPix digital camera.



*The annual Foam and Dance Party is one of the highlights of YSU Welcome Week, which opens the new academic year. See list of activities in this edition of YSU News Briefs.*

- The Fantastic Core  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Campus Core*  
Games, music, activities and prize giveaways on the Campus Core, including the Wrecking Ball Challenge, extreme trampoline, superhero green screen photos, Pickled Brothers antics show, radio stations and more.
- Outside Movie: *The Dark Knight*  
*8 p.m., Covelli Center Lawn*

## **Tuesday, Aug. 24**

- Student Organizational Fair  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Campus Core (Kilcawley Center if rain)*
- Superhero Caricature Artist  
*10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Campus Core (Lariccia Lounge if rain)*
- Create-A-Super'Guin  
*10 a.m., Campus Core (Lariccia Lounge if rain)*  
Build a superhero penguin.
- Super Fitness: Turbo Kick Class  
*Noon to 1 p.m., Andrews Aerobic Studio*
- Foam and Dance Party  
*7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Rec 5 Area*  
Night of free food, foam and fun with dancing and prize giveaways. YSU ID required for entry.

## **Wednesday, Aug. 25**

- Adventure Rec Demo  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m., The Fountain (Kilcawley Center if rain)*  
See what Andrews Adventure Center has to offer—from boulder-climbing clinics to kayaking and geocaching programs.
- KC Block Party  
*11:50 a.m. to 1:50 p.m., Chestnut Room (Kilcawley Center)*  
Free food, a DJ, informational tables, prize giveaways and a chance to win an Apple iPad.

## **Thursday, Aug. 26**

- GeekFest  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Chestnut Room (Kilcawley Center)*  
A celebration of all things STEM, highlighting the worlds of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Includes “geek games,” video game tournaments, student and vendor demonstrations and more.
- Gotham Gaming  
*10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lariccia Lounge (Kilcawley Center)*  
XBOX 360 and Nintendo Wii gaming systems for student use.
- Penguin Pre-Party: Rock Capitol Rockstar Karaoke  
*7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Peaberry's Café (Kilcawley Center)*
- Best Superhero Costume Contest  
*8:15 p.m., Peaberry's Café (Kilcawley Center)*  
Come to the Penguin Pre-Party with the best superhero costume and win a Toshiba Satellite laptop.

## Friday, Aug. 27

- Writing Center Super-Tech Workshop  
*11 a.m. to noon, Maag Library, Lab 159*  
Computer basics workshop with Writing Center consultants.
- Planetarium Show: *STARS*  
*7 p.m., Ward Beecher Hall, Room 2001*

For a detailed listing of these events plus others, visit <http://webserv.cc.ysu.edu/welcomeweek/index2.html>.

## YSU students on 25-day tour of Israel

Thirteen Youngstown State University students and two faculty members are in Israel this month, visiting historical sites, attending lectures and participating in an archaeological dig.

The 25-day visit, which is part of YSU courses on Jewish history and archaeology, is sponsored and organized by the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies and subsidized by the Center, the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and members of the community.



Students in the course are mostly history and anthropology majors, but the group also includes students in education, criminal justice and biology, said Helene Sinnreich, director of the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies. Sinnreich and Matt O'Mansky, assistant professor of Sociology and Anthropology, are field instructors on the trip.

Students departed for Israel on Aug. 5 and will return Aug. 29. The trip includes visits to major historical sites in Jerusalem, Acre, Bethlehem, Tiberius, Megiddo, Masada and the Dead Sea, as well as lectures on the history of the region and participation in an archeological dig. Students will also spend an evening camping in a traditional Bedouin tent, followed by a desert camel ride. Students also have the option of spending a day in Petra, Jordan.

## YSU-to-Thiel bike ride benefits Marty Manning

A bike ride from Youngstown to Greenville, Pa., to help raise funds for Marty Manning, associate director of Student Life at Youngstown State University, will be held Saturday, Sept. 4.

Manning, who is well respected by students, staff, faculty and administrators for his support of students and contributions to the profession of student affairs and higher education, has been battling cancer for more than three years.

The benefit bicycle ride from YSU to Thiel College in Greenville, Manning's undergraduate alma mater, will leave the YSU campus at 9 a.m. and end at Thiel, where Thiel and YSU families will celebrate "Marty Manning Day" by watching the Thiel vs. Marietta football game. Kick-off is 1:30 p.m. Riders will have the option of stopping for refreshments at each of three rest stops approximately nine miles apart.

The event is being planned by Manning's college roommate and best friend, Marvin Hill, with support from staff at both institutions. Funds raised will be donated to a trust account for Manning's children.

YSU will host an opening celebration for the bike ride in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. Riders are can check for a continental breakfast between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. Guest speakers will share stories about and to honor Manning. A silent auction/raffle with several baskets and items will be on display with the winners to be announced later in the day.

Donations to the trust will be accepted the morning of the ride via check or money order (no cash or credit) made payable to Dr. Martin T. Manning Cancer Fund C/O Migdalia Manning. Donations can be mailed to: 380 Flora Rd., Leavittsburg, Ohio 44430.

Registration forms are available by e-mailing Marvin Hill ([trooperandmaddie@aol.com](mailto:trooperandmaddie@aol.com)) or Brian Wells ([bpwells@ysu.edu](mailto:bpwells@ysu.edu)). Return the form along with a \$15 registration fee (no cash or credit please) to the Vice President of Student Affairs Office in Tod Hall, or mail the form to 380 Flora Rd. Leavittsburg, Ohio 44430, no later than Aug. 30, 2010.

This is a one-way ride, and riders should plan for their own return transportation upon arriving at Thiel College.

For more information, contact Marvin Hill (330-646-1400), Brian Wells ([bpwells@ysu.edu](mailto:bpwells@ysu.edu)), or Donna Greenaway (330-941-3533).

## Negro Spirituals concert kicks off Diversity Program Series



*Sophia Brooks*

Sophia Brooks, an internationally known vocalist who studied at Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music in the 1950s, will be performing on campus Sept. 2 to kick off the YSU Diversity Council's 2010-11 Community Diversity Program Series.

"An Evening of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Negro Spirituals," the first in the series, is set for 7 p.m. Sept. 2 in the Ford Theater at YSU's Bliss Hall. Event co-sponsors are YSU's Department of Theater and Dance, the Dana School of Music and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Planning Committee.

Brooks, a Youngstown native who was educated in the Youngstown City Schools, YSU's Dana School of Music, and the Cleveland Institute of Music, said she created the musical program to showcase the rich heritage of Negro Spirituals. "I will never forget this moment," Brooks said of the opportunity to sing for the first time in YSU's Ford Theater. "This is a dream come true for me."

A soprano classical musician, Brooks has traveled throughout the United States and Europe and was a soloist with Youngstown Symphony Choir. She also

served for 14 years as community affairs director for WKBN TV-27 in Youngstown, where she hosted a regular program called "Expressions." She has performed as a soloist at several area churches and

continues to serve the community as a voice instructor.

The concert will also include a historical narrative by the Rev. Dr. Lewis W. Macklin II and performances by For Grace, a Warren-based men's quartet, and by musician Wilbert Ervin. Ervin has played at the famous Apollo Theater and performed with such musical greats as the late Mahalia Jackson, the Mississippi Mass Choir, Mary Wells and Dorothy Norwood. He now plays for Great Liberty Baptist Church in Campbell. Admission is free, but tickets are required and are available on a first-come basis, no more than four per person, beginning at 9 a.m. Aug. 30 at the information desk in YSU's Kilcawley Center. Parking will be available in the Wick Avenue Parking Deck, located across the street from the Butler Institute of American Art and Maag Library. Guests are encouraged to park on the third level. A nominal fee will be charged.

Other programs planned in September as part of the Diversity Program Series include:

- 10 a.m. Sept. 15, health care worker Carol Vitelli discusses "Health at Home," OCCHA, 3600 Shirley Road, Youngstown.
- 6 p.m. Sept. 16, second annual Student Art Celebration, Newport Branch Library, 3730 Market Street, Youngstown. Exhibit continues through Sept. 21.
- 6 p.m. Sept. 28, Attorney Margaret W. Wong discusses her book, *The Immigrant's Way – For All Immigrants, By an Immigrant*, at Newport Library, Youngstown.
- 6 p.m. Sept. 30, dialogue with Minnijean Brown Trickey, one of the nine African American students, known as the Little Rock Nine, who integrated an Arkansas public high school in 1957. Held at St. Columba Cathedral, Wood & Elm.

For more information, contact the YSU Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 330-941-3370, or visit [www.ysu.edu/div\\_ysu](http://www.ysu.edu/div_ysu) for the entire program series schedule.

## **Workshop on preserving family history set for Aug. 29**

Steel Valley Voices: An Ethnic Community Archive will sponsor a free one-hour workshop on preserving family history and stories as part of Polish Youngstown's annual Polish Day, Sunday, Aug. 29, at 2 p.m., at St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 4310 Kirk Rd. in Youngstown.

The workshop will offer tips and guidelines on how to collect information, write engaging family stories, and preserve and share materials like photographs, letters, passports, and more.

Steel Valley Voices, a collaboration of Youngstown State University's Center for Working-Class Studies, the University Archives of Maag Library, the Center for Applied History, and the History Department at YSU, preserves and celebrates the ethnic and racial diversity of the Mahoning Valley. Along with sponsoring workshops to teach area residents about strategies to research and share their own histories, Steel Valley Voices hosts an online collection featuring letters, photographs, recipes, audio and video recordings, and more. The digital collection can be found at <http://steelvalleyvoices.com>.

Project coordinator Sherry Linkon, professor of English and American Studies at YSU, says Steel Valley Voices is an opportunity to capture local history before it disappears. "So many families have boxes of old photographs and letters stashed away," she says, "and sometimes the younger generation just isn't interested. If we don't preserve our history now, we may lose the chance. If we forget the past, we lose an important part of our identity, as families and as a community."

For more information on the workshop, contact Sherry Linkon at 330-941-2977 or [sllinkon@ysu.edu](mailto:sllinkon@ysu.edu).