

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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- **Grand opening of Harrison Common set for July 9**
- **Freshman Experience features Rec Center sleepover**
- **YSU re-appointed Tree Campus USA**

Calendar

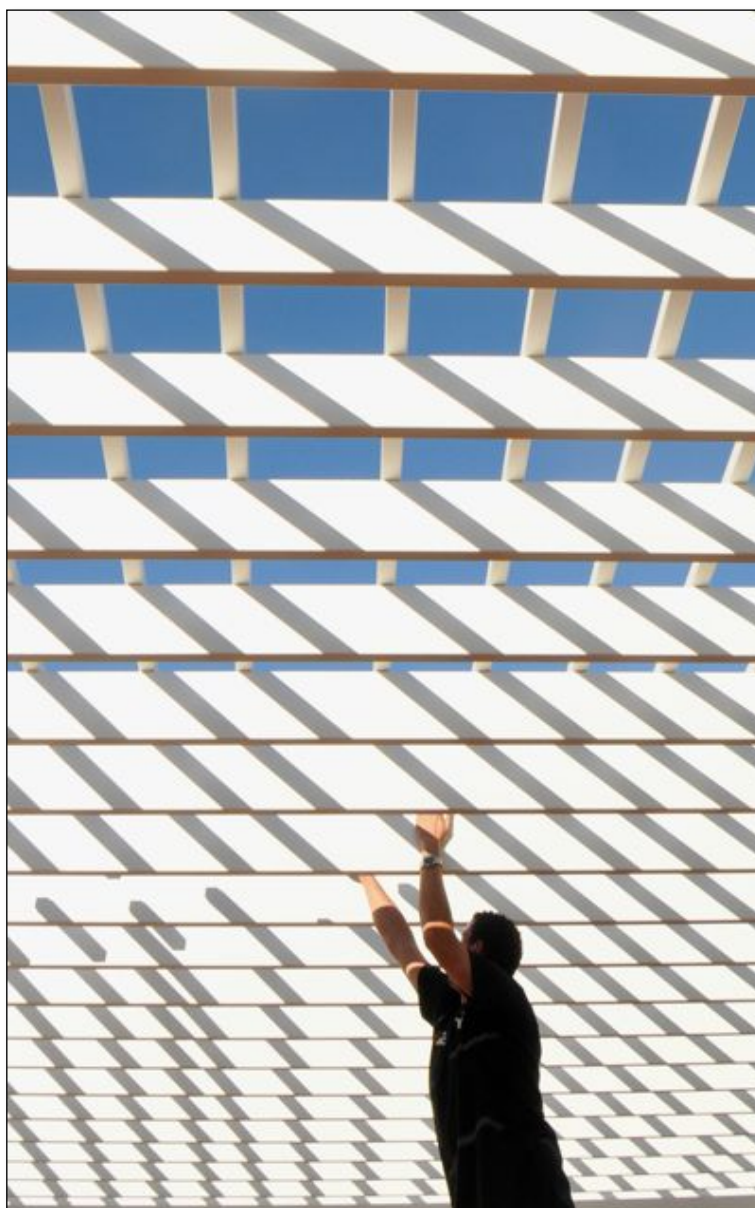
Wednesday, June 29, 9 a.m. to noon. NEO HealthForce's Career and Wellness Fair will be in the Rose Melnick Medical Museum on the campus of YSU. The event, which is free and open to the public, is aimed at anyone interested in a healthcare career or education. To register, call 330-965-1787. Registration is also available on the day of the event.

Grand opening of Harrison Common set for July 9

The ribbon will be cut at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 9, on Harrison Common, a new park in the historic Smoky Hollow neighborhood adjacent to Youngstown State University.

The park, which includes a brick paved plaza, a decorative pergola and a historic plat map of the Hollow, is a cornerstone of the Wick District-Smoky Hollow Redevelopment Plan led by Wick Neighbors Inc.

The grand opening ceremony, led by Father Richard Murphy, a member of the Wick Neighbors' board, is one of many events on and around the YSU campus on the weekend of July 9 and 10. Other events include YSU's 13th annual Summer Festival of the Arts, the Smoky Hollow 5K Run and Family Fun Walk, the Tour of the Valley Bike Race and the Youngstown Jazz Festival, which will be the first event to take place at Harrison Common.



The pergola is one of the features at the new Harrison Common in Smoky Hollow. A grand opening of the park is set for 11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 9. Read more in this edition of YSU News Briefs.

Harrison Common is located on Walnut Street near the MVR restaurant and across from YSU's Wick Avenue parking deck in Smoky Hollow, a neighborhood that in the first half of the 20th century was an ethnic melting pot of blue-collar families and businesses.

In 2002, YSU and the religious and cultural institutions along Wick Avenue created Wick Neighbors Inc., which developed a plan to revitalize Smoky Hollow. The plan calls for new streets, sidewalks, curbs and pedestrian pathways, new townhouses, condominiums and homes, commercial and retail space, and 10 acres of public green space, including a central park called Harrison Common.

The park was designed by Behnke Associates Inc. of Cleveland with design approval and oversight from WNI's Urban Planning and Design Committee, chaired by Murphy. Construction of the Harrison Common was completed by DSV Builders Inc. in the fall of 2010. Additional features were added this summer.

The project was funded through a \$396,000 grant to WNI from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, with support from former State Rep. John Boccieri. The Common was constructed on property owned by Youngstown State University, and with oversight of YSU's facilities department.

The Rotary Club of Youngstown contributed more than \$40,000 for the construction and lighting of the pergola and the historic plat map located at the northwest corner of the park. The Andrews Foundation also contributed \$20,000.

At 6 p.m. Saturday, July 9, a few hours after the ribbon cutting, Harrison Common will host the Youngstown Jazz Festival. The free festival will feature various performers from throughout the region. Patrons are permitted to bring picnic baskets with food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Freshman Experience features high ropes, Rec Center sleepover

Incoming freshmen students to Youngstown State University are encouraged to enroll in the Freshman Outdoor Recreation Experience operated by the YSU Department of Campus Recreation and Student Programming.

The program will be held twice this summer, July 29 and 30 and Aug. 19 and 20. It begins at 9 a.m. on Friday and concludes at 5 p.m. on Saturday.

FORE is designed to assist incoming freshmen students with the transition from high school to college life at YSU. The program includes the high ropes course, a geocaching scavenger hunt through campus, climbing the 53-foot rock wall, basic kayaking skills in the YSU swimming pool, paddling down a river in a kayak and a sleepover in the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center.



Students participate in last year's Freshman Outdoor Recreation Experience. This year's program is July 29 and 30 and Aug. 19 and 20.

The cost of the program, which includes all meals, is \$50. The program is limited to 25 participants, so organizers encourage interested students to register soon.

For more information, contact Michael Bowman at 330-941-1964 and check out the program brochure at <http://www.yzu.edu/reccenter/AdventureRec/FORE.shtml>

Tree planted in memory of White; YSU re-appointed Tree Campus USA

Members of Youngstown State University's Anthropology Colloquium recently planted a tree on the campus core in memory of the late John White, anthropology professor and department chair who passed away in 2009.

White taught at YSU for 34 years, authored more than 100 articles and books and led hundreds of archaeological surveys and excavations worldwide.

"Dr. White was a huge influence and great mentor to so many students," senior Jaime Fratilla said. "We wanted to celebrate his memory with the students he taught before they graduated this year."

The tree-planting coincided with the celebration of National Arbor Day and YSU's re-appointment as a Tree Campus USA.



Pictured planting the Weeping Higan Cherry Tree in memory of John White are, from the left, students Molly Toth, Jennifer Klingman, Derek Klingman, Tegan Anclade, Kimberlee Delco, Jaime Fratilla and Jason Howell.

Tree Campus USA honors colleges and

universities and their leaders for promoting healthy management of their campus forests and for engaging the community in environmental stewardship.

"By encouraging its students to plant trees and participate in service that will help the environment, Youngstown State University is making a positive impact on its community that will last for decades," said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation.

YSU met the five core standards of tree care and community engagement in order to receive Tree Campus USA status. The standards are: establish a campus tree advisory committee; evidence of a campus tree-care plan; verification of dedicated annual expenditures on the campus tree-care plan; involvement in an Arbor Day observance; and the institution of a service-learning project aimed at engaging the student body. For more information, visit www.arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA.