



Photo by JORDAN UNGER/THE JAMBAR

NAMI NAGAOKA

The McDonald's adjacent to Youngstown State University was recently renovated to include new technology designed to enhance customer experience.

Beki Badila, a supervisor at McDonald's, said they changed it to a more modern style.

"[We are] trying to fit in all of the changes that YSU is doing, trying to make a connection in this community," she said.

New updates include more outlets and USB plugs at every table near a wall, free Wi-Fi and digital self-ordering kiosks.

"[Customers] can walk right up to the kiosks and place your

order," Badila said. "We are trying to change the culture."

Badila said some assistants are always by the kiosks during peak hour for the people who don't know how to use them.

Customers order and pay at the kiosks with a credit card or debit card. They take a table number and their food is then delivered to their table.

"We are still busier [than before the renovation], but [kiosks] help us be able to take care of more customers," she said.

Badila said people can customize their food with the kiosks, such as removing pickles from a burger or adding sugar to their coffee.

Construction started in early August and finished in about

three weeks.

"We wanted to be done quickly, so that YSU students can come over and enjoy it," Badila said.

Seth Nycum, a sophomore majoring in physical education at YSU, said he currently lives at the University Edge and uses McDonald's drive-thru once every two to three weeks.

"Two drive-thrus make it so much different because they were so busy before," Nycum said. "There were a lot of times I thought about going there, then I didn't [because of its long line]."

Nycum said that a couple of times, he pulled his car in and went to the Taco Bell near McDonald's.

"I think people now get in and

out very quickly," Nycum said. "For business, if their drive-thru place has a long line, they are losing customers like crazy."

This McDonald's is open 24 hours.

"It's nice to have at least one place open [in the early morning]," Nycum said.

Kiara Price, a junior majoring in biology at YSU, said she goes to McDonald's almost every morning for breakfast.

"Two [drive-thru] lines are too crowded," she said. "It's less wait if I go inside rather than going outside. They need more workers especially after the renovation," Price said.

"[Having kiosks makes the orders] quick and easy," she said. "It's smart that they built that.

Inside looks great, it's beautiful. It just looks modern."

Price said it can be frustrating when trying to use Pete's Points. She said she always has to wait.

"They don't know how to use [Pete's Points], so they have to call their manager. If I use a debit card, then it's faster," Price said.

Badila said they are currently hiring.

"We are always flexible," Badila said. "We have scholarships available for students."

McDonald's received \$200,000 from the YSU Foundation for these updates, which was presented at the opening ceremony on Sept. 20.



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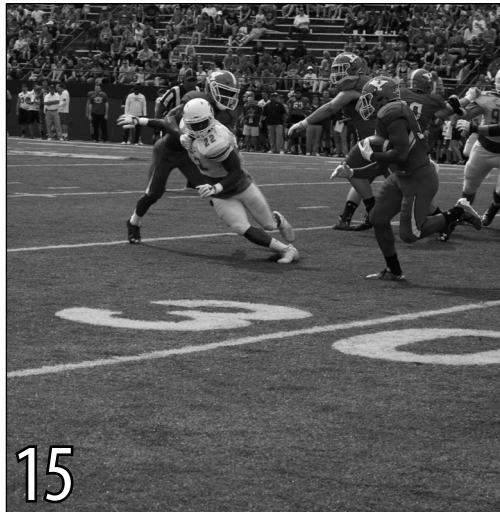
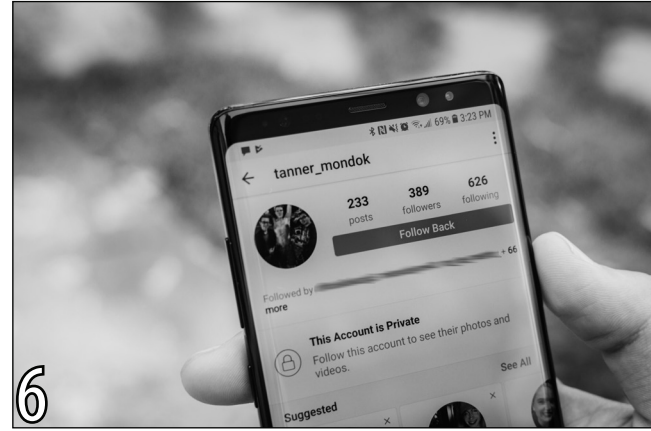


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Photo by RACHEL GOBEP/THE JAMBAR

PLANETARIUM SHOWCASES NEW EQUIPMENT

RACHEL GOBEP

The Ward Beecher Planetarium showcased the Sky-Skan Definiti domed theater system during its opening weekend on Friday and Saturday.

More than 300 people attended the event to view the new technology.

“We had the system installed three weeks ago. Part of opening weekend is to showcase the capabilities,” Patrick Durrell, physics and astronomy professor and director of the Ward Beecher Planetarium, said.

According to planetarium lecturer Tiffany Wolbrecht, prior to the Sky-Skan system, the Planetarium used the Spitz Sci-

Dome System, which showed pre-recorded shows. The new system can use actual astronomical data, can travel anywhere in the universe in real time and can render 3-D models of astronomical objects such as planets.

Two projectors are now working together to produce an image on the dome. Sky-Skan also has 16 times the resolution of the SciDome and 4,096 pixels, Wolbrecht said.

According to Durrell, the planetarium used computers that were 12 years old before the new technology, but the Sky-Skan system requires six computers to run.

“Our regular visitors will see a change in clarity and a higher

resolution,” Durrell said.

To showcase the functions of the system, the audience was shown a series of trailers for events that will come to the planetarium.

One trailer that received the attention of the audience was “Chaos and Order: A Mathematical Symphony,” which shows full-dome images and incorporates music. It combines math as science and reality to create art. The planetarium does not have this show yet, but plans to in a couple of years, Wolbrecht said.

The system has the ability to show a digital sky, and Wolbrecht said it is one of the best digital skies she has seen.

Wolbrecht interacted with the

audience and asked them to find constellations on the dome. She said the system is able to pull up photos of objects in the universe via photos from the Hubble Telescope such as the Andromeda Galaxy, which is 2.5 million light years away.

Nick DeLuca, physics and astronomy student at YSU, controlled the system and was able to show the audience what the particles in Saturn’s rings look like. He also orbited around one of Jupiter’s moons, Io, which has active volcanoes.

“This entire system is awesome. My favorite part is being able to orbit around the planets up close,” DeLuca said.

According to Wolbrecht, de-

tails in the Sky-Skan system are based on real fact, so the textures of planets and coloring are real.

Ashley Lemasters, a physics and astronomy student at YSU, said her favorite part of these updates is being able to view the entire universe.

“You get a perspective on how small we really are,” Lemasters said.

Wolbrecht said the solar eclipse created greater public interest in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and dozens of people said it was their first time attending an event at the planetarium.

The planetarium’s next event, Harry Potter weekend, will be this Friday and Saturday.



Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY ENCOURAGES READING IN YOUNGSTOWN COMMUNITIES

**JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
TREVOR MASTRAN**

The Student Government Association at Youngstown State University plans to begin expanding the Little Free Library program in order to provide accessible, free literature to the Youngstown community.

Small, birdhouse-sized boxes containing books are scattered around Youngstown. These are the result of the Little Free Library program, a nationwide initiative in which written works are offered to communities through a “take one/leave one” format exchange system.

Korinne Sackela, SGA’s vice president for assessment and enrichment, explained how the

program will continue to be implemented in Youngstown neighborhoods.

“Student government will be working with the Youngstown Rotary to find and secure specific localities in the city, as well as install them,” Sackela said. “In addition, we will work with student organizations on campus that are interested in sponsoring libraries. From there, we hope to set a date in which everyone can come together to build and decorate their libraries.”

Though the primary expenditure will be materials used to build each tiny library, Sackela said the price tag of the project may vary depending on the level of interest expressed by contributing organizations.

“The costs of this initiative are really dependent upon the type of response generated from student organizations across campus,” Sackela said. “What could be \$200 for one organization that simply sponsors a small library could end up being hundreds more for an organization that takes the time to really design and build a spectacular library to put up in Youngstown.”

In order to help the initiative’s continued success, SGA and its partners have outlined plans to proceed with development and upkeep of new book boxes. SGA President Rayann Atway described the process of the Little Free Library implementation.

“SGA will be organizing other groups to partner with and will

set a date to have volunteers from each organization come and build the libraries around the community,” Atway said. “We will also be partnering with groups to host a book drive, so we can stock up the libraries.”

The Youngstown Main Library has also participated in the program in previous years. Janet Loew, the communications and public relations director for the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County said she feels the Little Free Library program has a very particular effect for the local residents.

“The little free library is a unique concept because it puts books out where people can take them without going through the process of getting a library card,”

Loew said. “There are people who don’t like to come into libraries just because they feel shy or they’re not particularly confident. It’s reaching out to the community where the community is with reading materials and giving them an opportunity to read in a little more unique way.”

Participants hope that the Little Free Library program will serve to strengthen the sense of community between YSU and the surrounding area. The goal is to create a mainstay for Youngstown residents, remaining long after SGA’s tenure as students at YSU.

“Once we graduate, we want this to stick around and to make an impact even when we are gone,” Atway said.

YSU STUDENTS ADDRESS CONCERNS FOR THE FUTURE

JORDAN UNGER

Ohio State Auditor Dave Yost met with five Youngstown State University students in Tod Hall on Tuesday to discuss their concerns and praises of higher education and life after college.

YSU President Jim Tressel attended the meeting, accompanied by Neal McNally, vice president of finance and business, and YSU Internal Auditor Sarah Gampo.

The purpose of the meeting was to better understand what they, as students at a publicly-funded state university, are thinking about regularly and in regards to the future, Yost said.

The students who attended were members of the Presidential Mentors Program, a group which meets with Tressel every month to provide student feedback on campus issues.

To open, the mentors compared YSU from when they first came to campus to now. Ashley Labatte, a biology student at YSU, said the construction of new apartment complexes has made campus a much livelier, welcoming place.

“When I originally started coming here in 2015, it was primarily a commuter school. Living on campus was kind of rare to hear from someone,” Labatte said. “Our dynamic has kind of changed ... That’s what has been on my mind lately, watching us grow here and turn into a more campus feel.”

At the same time, Labatte said campus has done a nice job reaching out to residents and also commuter students for its activities.

“It’s opened up more, it’s advertised more and people feel more involved,” Labatte said.

Yost asked the students whether they thought it was right to yell down a speaker they did not agree with. Emma Hetson, a

chemical engineering student at YSU, noticed people do this at college graduations last year and said this is the wrong approach.

“I think it is important that you say your own opinion, even if it is different to someone else who is broadcasting, but I don’t think it is ever acceptable to shout down someone,” Hetson said.

The students were asked where they realistically expect to see the world 20 years from now. Dylan Anders, finance student at YSU, said he hopes to see more acceptance of other cultures, particularly in the Youngstown area.

“I’ve had the opportunity to travel a few times this year. Just to [Washington] D.C. and New York, but even in those experiences, just realizing the difference in culture ... you see a lot more acceptance,” Anders said. “I think it’s something that this area struggles with.”

Approached with the same question, Hetson said she believes obtaining a master’s degree will become more significant with reference to marketability in industry, particularly engineering.

“A lot of people nowadays are getting their master’s degree,” Hetson said. “I think it’s going to be kind of necessary to get further and further up with your education.”

Tressel said the university measures enrollment and education, but also needs to look ahead.

“The next thing we are going to need to own up to ... is what are [the students] doing when they leave,” Tressel said. “Was it a good investment?”

The meeting lasted an hour, concluding with Yost thanking the attendees for providing their insight.

Yost has been the auditor of Ohio since 2011. He will be running for the Ohio attorney general’s office in 2018.

YSU REVISITS WOMEN’S CENTER IDEA WITH NEW INITIATIVE: PART TWO

ELIZABETH LEHMAN

As the Youngstown State University Women and Gender Resource Initiative progresses toward becoming a center on campus, Megan List, assistant professor of teacher education, has been hired as interim director for the center.

Provost Martin Abraham said List was recommended for the role by her colleagues.

“As it became clear that we needed an interim director to get this initiative underway, I talked with her about her interest and vision for what this could be,” Abraham said. “I agreed with her vision so offered her the opportunity.”

List teaches an LGBTQ issues course on campus and has an undergraduate degree in history and social studies. Being a transgender woman, List has been interested in gender since she was young.

Michael Jerryson, associate professor of religious studies at YSU, announced List’s hiring as director in a recent email to colleagues. In the email Jerryson said List is, to his knowledge, the first transgender director of a women’s center in Ohio.

List said trans identity is not widely accepted in the Mahoning Valley, largely due to unrealistic mainstream portrayals of transgender individuals.

“I mean, if we look at the TV, who do we see on TV? We see ‘Law & Order,’ we see trans women prostitutes and drug users and murderers,” List said. “And then if we go into reality, kind of our spokesperson right

now is Caitlyn Jenner ... She is this super affluent, super privileged individual who was able to transition through a lot of money. Most trans women don’t have that kind of funding.”

List said because many people are only exposed to the fringe of the trans demographic, they believe everyone is like that.

“I like to be out for that reason,” List said. “I’m much more Midwestern housewife than Caitlyn Jenner ... We’re just your regular, average family.”

List said the prospective women’s center will work to finding ways to help students feel safe on campus and will help fill holes where need meets reality.

“Right now we do have a lot of procedures and things in place on campus to take care of things, but it’s not necessarily clear what students should do in any given situation,” List said.

Whether a student feels they are being stalked, discriminated against, or if they are dealing with suicidal thoughts, crisis or sexual assault, the center will help address these issues, she said. The center will work with other departments to coordinate resources as well.

Linda Tessier, extended teaching service faculty of philosophy and religious studies, was, at one point, the director of women’s studies and also director of a previous women’s center on campus.

Tessier said by hiring an academic faculty member as director instead of someone with student services experience from outside campus, the university is trying to save money. She said although she is sure the faculty

member will do an excellent job, a faculty member does not have the student services training that is part of the role.

“The director will have to learn on the fly, just as I did, and if my experience is any guide, the director will have to do it with virtually no support, except from all the other hard-working faculty members who have continued the struggle to support both women’s studies and the women’s center,” Tessier said.

Abraham supports List as director and said he hopes people within YSU and also in the community will support her as she develops her vision for the center.

“I need someone to help us build a vision that is appropriate for the future of the university. I believe that Dr. List has those qualifications and fully support her efforts,” Abraham said.

List said in December, everyone involved in the process will evaluate whether or not they need to shift titles or roles.

“And then the work is going to continue through the spring,” List said.

Abraham said the administration is prepared to increase its investment in the project and see it expand. He said he is committed to its success, and will work with List and the team she assembles to help them to achieve their goals. He said the administration will put resources into activities as needed.

“I fully expect this to become a vibrant university center, something of which the entire Youngstown community can be proud,” Abraham said.

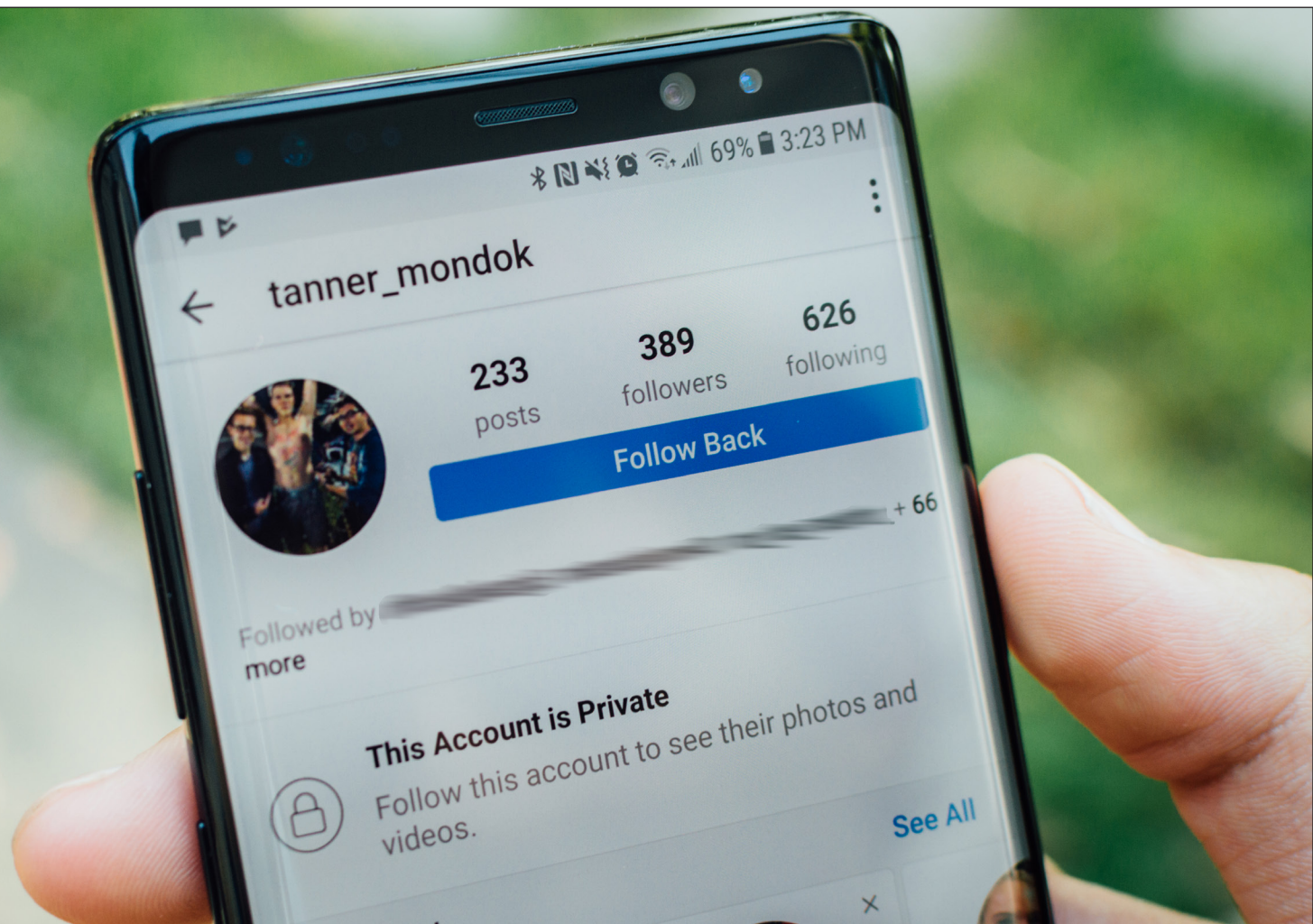


Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

PRIVACY WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

DAVID FORD

Social media apps and websites may have access to private information on personal devices.

With cell phones becoming increasingly advanced and new social media applications such as Facebook and Snapchat on the rise, users' privacy is at risk.

Kati Hartwig, the social media and web manager for Youngstown State University, said social media plays a watchdog role in the world today and is nearly essential for communication.

"It is essential for higher education and allows students to connect with each other, as well as alumni," Hartwig said. "Basically, when people talk about apps like Facebook obtaining information about its users, the

topic of Big Brother comes up. A lot of your information is public anyway. Sites use this [information] to help adjust advertisements."

According to a 2014 report by Fox 29 News, social media apps like Facebook Messenger can access contacts, location, camera, photos and microphone if the user chooses to accept their terms and conditions through the app store.

While these social media sites are free to download, users are relinquishing a lot of their private information, Hartwig said.

"A lot of what Facebook does is analytic reporting," Hartwig said. "This allows them to identify users' interests, who they communicate with and tailor the content around that."

Essentially, Facebook allows users to access their social me-

dia platform for free in exchange for a user's private information. According to a 2013 article written by Bernard Marr, an internationally best-selling author, Facebook has massive abilities to collect, store and analyze data, which allows Facebook to sell targeted advertising.

Marr also said the social media site invested in image processing and facial recognition that essentially allows Facebook to track people. All of the research done through Facebook allows them to analyze a user's data and sell them advertising based off location, interests and latest activity.

At the end of the article, Marr asks if users feel comfortable with Facebook having the ability to study and essentially exploit what it knows about them.

Christopher Wentz, the information security officer at YSU,

said several members of the university's IT department didn't use the Facebook Messenger app due to privacy concerns. Wentz said people skip through terms and conditions before agreeing to applications demands, which is an issue.

"You enter into a legal agreement with the software provider when you accept the terms and conditions. As far as permissions go, you grant the site the ability to perform the actions such as accessing contacts, camera and data as outlined in the agreement," Wentz said. "Once you hit agree, the developers can access whatever information they want."

While social media usage continues to increase, privacy concerns are brought to light. Some people either drop their account or don't use it at all over the issue

of privacy.

Dennis Schiraldi, a communications professor at YSU, said he believes otherwise. He said he does not believe privacy to be the biggest factor in whether or not people use social media.

"I believe in social media fatigue, people becoming tired of keeping up with it [social media] or seeing people's fantastic, fake lives is contributing to some unhappiness," Schiraldi said. "Only a small percentage of people are not logging on or are leaving because of privacy."

Schiraldi said some people know about the privacy concerns and use it anyway. He said others don't know and continue to use it, unaware of what social media sites like Facebook are doing with the information.



WOMEN'S FITNESS DAY

Photo by TANNER MONDOK/THE JAMBAR

DAVID FORD

Youngstown State University participated in its first National Women's Health and Fitness Day, dedicated to encouraging women to stay healthy and lead active lifestyles.

The event took place on Wednesday, with activities throughout Kilcawley Center, WATTS Center, Tod Hall and Wick Park. The event was sponsored by the YSU Campus Recreation, Pure Barre, Living Well YSU Employee Wellness Program, as well as campus police and the nursing department.

Carrie Clyde, the wellness coordinator at YSU, stressed the importance of health and well-being for women, especially students on campus.

"Health and well-being are extremely important for everyone," Clyde said. "By offering these educational and fitness programs throughout the day, we can highlight the importance of adopting a healthy routine."

Clyde also said it's vitally important for women to engage in some sort of physical activity every day and to stick with a fitness plan that fits their goals.

"If [women] are not leading active lifestyles, it could be detri-

mental to their health long term. It's important to stay focused on the small things every day that lead you on a better path for a healthy lifestyle," Clyde said.

Clyde said the university events department contacted her about planning fitness activities for women on campus. The activities for the fitness program were selected to give women a variety of options to choose from in terms of fitness activities or health education.

The activities selected for the fitness program included a morning walk and Pure Barre session at the WATTS Center, a lecture about nutrition and diabetes awareness in Tod Hall, yoga at Wick Park, concluding with a self-defense class sponsored by the campus police department.

Ryan McNicholas, the coordinator for fitness and wellness programs, said this is the first time YSU participated in the national fitness day, but they are hopeful this program can continue in the long run.

"Overall, we wanted to see a program that women would enjoy and benefit from," McNicholas said. "At YSU, we believe it's extremely [important] to do anything we can to promote and encourage healthy behavior."

While YSU has offered health

and fitness programs for all students in the past, this is the first time the university participated in an all-day event focusing solely on raising awareness for women's health and well-being.

Julie Whan, a fitness instructor at Pure Barre in Boardman, helped educate women on campus through her fitness centers' programs.

"Every woman of every size, shape and ability has the opportunity to stay healthy and energized," Whan said. "You obviously don't have to participate in strenuous activity or run a marathon every day, but it's important to adopt daily habits."

Whan also advised women to watch their physical activity and food intake with moderation and expressed her opinion on what nutritional items are beneficial.

"The most important thing is to stay hydrated and take some sort of multivitamin to get the nutrients you need," Whan said. "You don't want to deprive yourself of stuff you like, like ice cream, but obviously avoid eating it every day."

Whan added that Pure Barre is currently offering "first week free" fitness courses for women in the area. Their studio is located on Boardman-Canfield Road for anyone interested.

YOUNGSTOWN CITY PROVIDES FUNDING FOR ENCLAVE STUDENT HOUSING

JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
CHAD TORRES

The Enclave Student Housing project will add retail and economic influence to the Youngstown area.

The City of Youngstown has approved a \$4 million loan to Levey Realty Company (LRC) for the completion of the Enclave student housing project currently under construction next to the Lincoln Building.

LRC Special Projects Director Gary O'Nesti said the company worked with the city for funding the project.

"There are a number of public funding standards the city has in place to assist with economic development. There are different funding options like a sewer aid or tax abatement; we applied for everything that fit," O'Nesti said.

O'Nesti said the Enclave will be a student housing complex, meaning it will be only available for students at Youngstown State University.

The student housing complex will feature more than 11,000 square feet of retail space and about 100,000 square feet of student housing space.

O'Nesti said the retail tenants were not set, and it would take time before the negotiations with them would be complete.

"We're looking at student services, food or restaurants, some telecommunications, even some health tenants. Nothing is set. What you have to understand is that something like this takes time," O'Nesti said.

O'Nesti said the city may provide funding for projects similar to the Enclave and the income it brings to Youngstown and YSU.

"[Students] directly look for things to do in the downtown area; they're looking to eat, looking business, something this complex provides. That's why the city recognizes these economic benefits," O'Nesti said.

Evan Mellone is the vice president of the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) at YSU.

Mellone said he had discussed projects similar to the Enclave

through either the student organization or his courses in Williamson College of Business Administration.

"I think having students actually in Youngstown is beneficial instead of [them] commuting or in the dorms," said Mellone.

Mellone said in his view, there's a difference between living in the residence halls on campus and living in a housing complex.

"You can walk downtown [when in a housing complex], but in the dorms, you have your dorms friends and you just go back to the dorms; apartments have a more college environment," said Mellone.

Mellone said he felt the retail section of the Enclave would be beneficial for Youngstown because of the students shopping there.

Mellone also said that the economic aid the city offers is warranted for projects similar to the Enclave.

"It's building a community of Youngstown students in Youngstown. It's a five-minute walk to downtown, that's going to help downtown too; [\$]4 million is a lot, but it's going to add back to the community eventually," said Mellone.

Tyler Richter, a WCBA student and current president of the Society of Collegiate Leadership, said he has been following the Enclave project and had prior knowledge of housing complexes.

"I think it means advancement by bringing in [more] YSU students to the Youngstown area," Richter said.

Richter shared his view on how revenue could be generated from the Enclave and other student housing projects similar to it.

"It pulls more people to YSU. That's taxes for Youngstown. It is beneficial, especially for YSU, because of the business [student housing projects] brings in. YSU is technically the city's largest business," said Richter.

Richter also said it may not have as great an effect on the city compared to YSU. He said it may not be best for the city to pay for projects similar to the Enclave if the benefits are not apparent.



Photo Courtesy of KILCAWLEY GRAPHICS SERVICES

MUSICAL TALENT IGNITES THE FIRE FEST

NOAH JOHNSON

Penguin Productions hosted the Fall Fire Fest Saturday night, featuring disc jockey Nas Artelli, a student at Youngstown State University and the two headlining bands, PUBLIC and Animal Years.

Student organizations set up booths for activities and snacks, while the attendees gathered around the campus bonfire. Picnic tables to enjoy products from local food vendors were also available.

Stephanie Baker, the event lead for Penguin Productions, said she and the other students in the organization get involved at each level of event planning to host public outings like Fall Fire Fest.

“Our students take a lot of time to research bands and think about what our students would like and who we would like to bring to draw a crowd,” Baker said.

Artelli opened the night’s festivities. He is a member of the Penguin Productions’ talent team and has performed at several other YSU events, including the Summer Festival of the Arts.

“I usually play from hip hop to R&B, to indie [and] to pop, so it’s more about diversity within the music,” Artelli said. “There are artists that people don’t usually listen to, so it’s a lot of new music compared to listening to the radio.”

Artelli grew up in Philadelphia and started performing when he was 12. He is a communications student at YSU and

works at Rookery Radio.

“My favorite part is just seeing how the crowd reacts,” Artelli said. “If I see one person moving their feet, I’m satisfied.”

PUBLIC, from Cincinnati, Ohio, will be going on their cross-country tour in October. They host their music on SoundCloud and their EP is available on bandcamp.com. Co-headlining the Fest was Animal Years, a band that started in New York. They released their new single, “Caroline” on May 19.

Penguin Productions hosts these artists with the help of a designated hospitality team led by Katie Liebler.

“I make sure that everything they need the day of and the day before is taken care of and is set for when they arrive,” Liebler

said.

Liebler’s team needs to negotiate contracts with the performers as well to ensure all parties are satisfied. At the event planning level, it is the job of operations lead, Jenna Parkany, to create a layout for the event space.

“[I work] with departments on campus, grounds, parking, athletics, having all those contacts come together to create the event,” Parkany said. “I’m that middle man between our committee and those contacts.”

With the Fire Fest behind them, Penguin Productions will be focusing their efforts on spring’s Federal Frenzy, an all-day event highlighting music, food and the arts in downtown Youngstown.

BEHIND THE STAGE AT STAMBAUGH AUDITORIUM

MARAH J. MORRISON

Youngstown State University students and the surrounding community have the opportunity to work behind the scenes of Stambaugh Auditorium, a neighboring venue that hosts concerts, lectures and various events.

Jamie Fleeson, the director of advertising and design at Stambaugh Auditorium, said all of the events at the auditorium bring in a boost to the economy.

"It brings people into the area that would typically not come to the area," Fleeson said, "and for students, we have a lot of different opportunities."

The auditorium offers positions in guest services, ticket-taking, concessions and bartending for each of the events they have. Fleeson said if students are interested in seeing some concerts but wouldn't mind working or volunteering, opportunities are available for them.

"With any of our shows, we work with our booking

agent," Fleeson said, "and our booking agent helps us go and talk to management of the artist."

Fleeson said it's fun seeing all of the employees at the auditorium work together and is always excited for the shows they host.

Richard Marx performed at the auditorium on Sept. 24. Marx played acoustic guitar and the piano while singing some of his hit singles, including "Satisfied," "Should've Known Better," "Endless Summer Nights" and "Right Here Waiting."

Carole Williams, one of the guest services employees at the auditorium, said events like this one show locals the type of shows that they have that can be appealing to all ages.

"When you attend one of our events here, you see the amount of people that are attending," Williams said, "and it's always been a good concert, any concert that they've had here and a good opportunity for people."

Williams said she loves working at the auditorium and said that every day is a new event.

"I've been here for quite a while now and every day I see something new," Williams said.

Paula Ferguson, another guest services employee, said she's been in this line of work for over 30 years and has worked in many different venues. She has met many famous artists and has worked backstage as well.

"You see them come, you see them go," Ferguson said. "You set up, you tear down, they go home, you go home, that's it."

For the last ten years, Ferguson has been the venue manager at Westminster College and they have similar concert series to the ones at Stambaugh Auditorium.

Ferguson said she thinks college students benefit from attending events like this because they could hear a genre of music that they aren't familiar with and broaden their horizons.

Upcoming events at this venue include The Texas Tenors on Oct. 22, the 20th Annual Stambaugh Auditorium Fashion Show on Nov. 1 and Michael Bolton live in concert on Dec. 7.

A FESTIVAL FOR WRITERS

JOHN STRAN

The first Fall Literary Arts Festival will be held Saturday in the McDonough Museum of Art at Youngstown State University.

The event correlates with the Salon de Fleurus exhibition that is currently at the museum. The exhibition features the 1920's salon of Gertrude Stein, a place many famous writers used to gather.

Leslie Brothers, director of the museum, said hosting the event is something she looks forward to.

"We were thrilled to find out that the Fall Literary Festival wanted to schedule a discussion and film screening here," Brothers said. "It's a perfect match."

The film being shown is "Arriving at Bessie," produced by Kelly Bancroft. The film depicts Bancroft's search to gather

information about a deceased family member she never knew.

"She was accidentally uncovered during research," Bancroft said. "The film traces the search for information about her death and puts it into a context that remains politically significant."

Other appearances will be made by bestselling author Robert Olmstead, poets Denise Duhamel and Nin Andrews and YSU English professor Chris Barzak.

Lit Youngstown is hosting the festival. The director of Lit Youngstown, Karen Schubert, said she thought enough literary enthusiasts lived in the area to hold a festival. She said bringing in well-regarded writers will make people travel from all over to attend the event.

For Schubert, the popularity of the Literary Arts can be seen all throughout Youngstown, and she is expecting a de-

cent turnout.

"There are writing and reading groups all over the valley," Schubert said. "Open mics, poetry slams, programs at public libraries, senior centers, schools and bookstores."

Schubert said it can be surprising as to just how many people of all ages in Youngstown take an interest in writing.

"There's a good mix of people, from experienced writers to novices and readers," Schubert said. "It's primarily adults but there are some older teens."

The festival may help up-and-coming local writers network with each other without having to travel a far distance, Bancroft said.

"Writing festivals are an exciting way for writers to get together and explore their craft and resources," Bancroft said.

"The cost of larger ones prohibits a lot of people from attending so to have one in Youngstown gives local writers access to these stimulating events."

Bancroft's advice to those who may be looking to get into memoir or screenwriting is to write frequently.

"Write daily and determine what your strengths are," Bancroft said. "Be honest with yourself and get feedback from people you trust and don't be too delicate about what you hear."

The McDonough is hosting the event from 2-3:30 p.m. The festival will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church before and after the film screening as well.

The admission price for the entire day is \$25. Those interested in attending can visit lityoungstown.org for payment instructions and specific times of events throughout the day.

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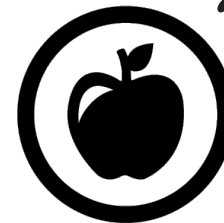
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Notice to Invite Third Party Comments

Youngstown State University is seeking comments from the public about the University in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The University will host a visit March 26 and 27, 2018, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission. YSU has held continuous regional accreditation since 1945. The Higher Learning Commission reaffirmed accreditation in 2008.

The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college to the following address:

Public Comment on Youngstown State University
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at www.hlcommission.org/comment.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by Feb. 26, 2018.



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YSU STUDENT-ATHLETES: HOME LIFE ON THE BRAIN

CHRIS MCBRIDE

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, The Jambar asked YSU football players how they and their families have learned and coped with the disaster.

Florida natives, senior junior college transfer Lasander Washington from Tampa, Fla.; freshman linebacker Jonathan Pollock of Orlando, Fla.; and junior defensive end Johnson Louigene from Immokalee, Fla. sat down to discuss their experiences in dealing with family caught up in Hurricane Irma.

Lasander Washington
Senior wide receiver Lasander Washington grew up in Tampa,

Fla., in the Hillsborough County community.

The Tampa area, while largely unscathed by the storm, still had issues such as trees, power lines and signs being knocked down throughout the city.

Washington's family ignored requests from city officials to evacuate to a nearby high school. Instead, his mother and father insisted on staying home to ride the storm out.

The power outages made contacting family a challenge for Washington, which was difficult for him.

"Normally [I] speak to my people every day to make sure they're good," Washington said.

Their only form of communication for the next two days would be a walkie-talkie app Washington's mother used to stay in touch.

Apps like these became the most popular downloads on app stores during Hurricane Harvey and gained more popularity in Florida as Irma ripped through the state, allowing for families to talk to loved ones with the push of a button when connected to either cellular or Wi-Fi data.

"We just lost panels from our pool and it actually flooded, so my dad had to drain the pool mid-hurricane," Washington said. "Other than that, my mom me told that there were palm

trees everywhere but that's about it."

With the storm coming and going in a matter of days, Washington's community banded together to help begin the recovery process. Washington said his father and a group of men in the neighborhood helped neighbors board their homes up and checked in with older residents.

Washington's family and their neighborhood were fortunate enough to have minimal damages. They look to move on with life after the storm.

Jonathan Pollock
Freshman outside linebacker Jonathan Pollock is from Orlando, Fla. in the Orange County

area. Pollock and his family have been through many hurricanes, including Hurricane Katrina.

"We got a lot of the harsh winds [and] rains from Katrina but my brother and I were actually playing Frisbee during it," Pollock said, laughing.

This time around, the conditions of Irma kept Orlando residents inside with harsh winds and a curfew in place to keep people safe. Despite warnings to evacuate, Pollock's family also decided to wait the storm out at home.

HOME LIFE ON THE BRAIN
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MAHONING VALLEY YOUNG PROFESSIONAL SURVEY

JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

The Eastgate Regional Council of Governments and Youngstown State University's Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) have put together a survey to help better the future of the Youngstown community.

The Mahoning Valley Young Professional Survey is a means of helping the Mahoning Valley grow as a community as well as be competitive as an economy, according to Sarah Wenger, an employee with Eastgate Regional Council.

City University Planning Coordinator Dominic Marchionda said the survey was organized by Wenger and Daniel Bancroft, an intern with REDI.

"We're doing a lot of great things as a community and that's great but obviously, there's a lot of room for improvement," Marchionda said.

Bancroft said the survey focuses on young professionals in the valley and is used to assess how young professionals fit in the community. He said the results of the survey will be turned into change and action to make the city better business-wise.

The goal of the survey is to find out what about the Mahoning Valley keeps residents here and why some choose to leave, Wenger said.

"We are trying to find out why people are here or why they moved away," Wenger said. "The results will be used to create a memo about the outcome and use the info to create a strategy on how to better retain and attract talent."

Wenger said the survey came out of a discussion with the chamber and port authority, after recognizing a challenge for the Mahoning Valley to grow as a community. She said Youngstown had the lowest number of education attainment out of 13 cities looked at.

According to Bancroft, the survey is open to the public but also has focused on specific demographics. He said large businesses, YSU students and faculty as well as other colleges like Kent State University and Eastern Gateway Community College have been asked to take the survey.

The survey will be accessible for all of September and should be closed by Oct. 1. It can be taken at this website, <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/3693914/Mahoning-Valley-Young-Professional-Survey>.

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MARIO'S MOVIES:

MANNERS MAKETH MAN; DO NOT NECESSARILY MAKETH MOVIE

MARIO RICCIARDI

Spielberg. Tarantino. Fincher. You know their names, and know their films even better. Now what if I said Matthew Vaughn? “Matthew who?” “That guy I met at the party last weekend?” Although his name doesn’t hold the connotation of a Hollywood heavyweight, his films sure do. He is one of our generation’s most innovative, original, boundary pushing (and under the radar) directors.

Matthew Vaughn has produced, written, and directed “Stardust,” “Kick-Ass,” “X-Men: First Class” and “Kingsman: The Secret Service.” For a director whose catalogue is a series of adaptations of comic books and Neil Gaiman books, you wouldn’t expect him to be very original, but he consistently proves that assumption wrong. Each of his films are fresh, stylish and bold and they also breathe entertaining new life into overdone genres. Long story short, I love his films. You’re wrong if you don’t, and he’s the man.

Unfortunately everyone slips up, even if you are the man (something The Killers’ latest song forgets to mention). In Vaughn’s follow-up to “Kingsman: The Secret Service,” “Kingsman: The Golden Circle” falls flat on its own ambition to entertain. Where the first one cheekily poked fun at classic spy movie tropes, then elevated the genre by dauntlessly pushing the category where it never has before, the follow-up loses that fine line between parody and homage and turns it into an over-the-top jumble that can’t seem to hit the right notes or find its pacing.

If “The Secret Service” were the Connery Era of Bond, “Golden Circle” is Roger Moore. The film is not nearly as meticulous with the notes it hits as the first “Kingsman” movie. A lot of what gets done feels like entertainment done for entertainment’s sake. Whereas the first film had purpose, the sequel stops short at the motive and the motive won’t cut it when compared to what the series originally accomplished.

Even Elton John shows up, and although it makes sense for him to do so, one is not quite sure why he is there. Overall the film serves up style and entertainment,

but it falls too far from the polished fun and direction of the first film. Turning in the best performances are the Kingsmen themselves. Stars Taron Egerton, Colin Firth and Mark Strong bring their characters back and to new levels. Done so in a way that the Kingsmen’s American counterparts, the Statesmen, do not.

Channing Tatum is underused as Agent Tequila, Jeff Bridges serves as little more than extra star power for the posters as “Champ”agne, and while Pedro Pascal’s Agent Whiskey is the most convincing of the three, his character doesn’t hold as much swagger as the Kingsman hold style.

The best of the Statesmen is not a man at all, but rather a woman. Halle Berry’s character Ginger Ale is the most enjoyable Statesman to watch, and she gets her due towards the end of the film.

As someone whose first Bond was Pierce Brosnan, it’s pretty cool to see her return to a spy franchise. In short, “Secret Service” was gourmet popcorn entertainment, while “Golden Circle” drops the gourmet.

LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF GIANTS

NATHAN HRITZ

Imagine a small town tucked away on the border of Pennsylvania and Ohio – kids playing baseball in the streets, old men sitting out on the porch or a family gathering for dinner. Imagine hordes of men coming out of their respective steel mills after a long, hard day of work.

In the pre-war era, and even during both world wars, my hometown of Sharon, Pennsylvania, played a key role in producing steel, which is a material used to fuel war machines and even more crucially, a material used in building the nation we live in.

Sharon is not the only town like this. On a broader spectrum, I am talking about

the Rust Belt – a place that many, myself included, still call home. Many of the towns strewn throughout the Rust Belt are still haunted by the giants that fueled the nation – once great mills, now vacant.

Rust Belt homes bear oddly placed toilets and showers in their basements. Even entire neighborhoods are populated with homes that look almost identical to one another. We are all affected by this as students at Youngstown State University, whether we choose to accept that notion or not. Youngstown itself once had the potential to be a metropolis like New York City or Chicago, cities fueled by industry.

An almost eerie atmosphere plagues the air. You can feel it and see it on the faces of those who once worked in the mills. It was not all that long ago that these mills were in full swing. Many have paid tribute to that era, including Bruce Springsteen in

his song, “The Ghost of Tom Joad,” which evokes the perspective of an unemployed steelworker in Youngstown, Ohio.

Workers who once worked at the blast furnace in the Youngstown Steelworks know that the Jeanette blast furnace, nicknamed “Jenny” by its workers, was named after the daughter of Brier Steel Hill president, W.A. Thomas. Even “Jenny Magazine,” another publication at YSU, is named after the famed blast furnace. The blast furnace was demolished twenty years ago in 1997.

On second thought, these giants do not haunt this land. I believe they stand to remind us of how great the Rust Belt once was and how great it could be again. Empty buildings, once filled with small business, now lay empty, but not a single one of those buildings goes without a story that somebody would love to tell.

Though the biggest of these buildings, these old shells of mills, are far too large to re-inhabit, there is still hope for the cities built around them. I cannot speak for all cities, but I can speak for my own and I will.

In the past five years, a revitalization in the buildings that were once privately-owned businesses has been taking place. Choice individuals capitalize on the fact that the depressed nature of these old steel towns offer lower costs of living. Property value is significantly lower than in other areas of the United States, making the Rust Belt a prime location to open new privately-owned boutiques.

Though we may be living in the shadow of fallen giants, I am proud to call the Rust Belt my home. We’ve been through the fire, and we’ll keep fighting on. Just like we always have.

A JAMBAR EDITORIAL: MENTAL ILLNESS: LETTING GO OF THE STIGMA

Research by the National Alliance on Mental Health states 75 percent of mental illnesses begin by the age of 24. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, there were 11.8 million students between ages 18 to 24 enrolled in U.S. colleges in 2015.

With these numbers in mind, it comes as no surprise that mental illness is common among college students. Yet people who live with these conditions are still discriminated against and, as a result, feel the need to hide this aspect of themselves from others.

Mental health issues, according to mentalhealth.gov, can be attributed to various factors including biological, life experiences and family history. This is a very broad outlook on mental illness, considering there are countless diagnoses on the spectrum of mental health and all people are different.

Unfortunately, due to the stigma that surrounds it and the ignorance of people regarding it, people with mental illness are too often seen as the same, which cannot be further from the truth. All this stigma fueled by misunderstanding leads to social distancing and, according to an article on Psychology Today, has proven to only worsen conditions.

Where is the humanity in shutting someone out who may need more than anything to confide in or a helping hand

in the right direction?

According to the NAMI, one in five young adults will experience some form of mental health condition during college. This statistic is hard for some to grasp, from both those who have and don't have one of these conditions.

For those who do, it is proof that you do not stand alone. People are out there who understand what you are going through. Do not shame yourself. It may not be an easy road ahead, but the first and strongest step is to seek help.

For those who don't, it's time to let go of the stigma which is causing people with mental illness to feel insecure in the first place.

A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determined only 25 percent of adults with mental health symptoms believe that people are sympathetic and caring for those with mental illnesses.

This needs to change. A conversation needs to be had with both sides regarding people with mental illness as exactly who they are: people. Once these conversations are had, society will be one step closer to ending this ignorance-driven stigma.

Counseling information and resources can be accessed for Youngstown State University students on the Student Counseling Services webpage.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To whom it may concern,

Mental health is an issue that is receiving a lot more research and has an increasing popularity among colleges as a field of study. However, when it comes to mainstream media, mental health seems to be viewed as more of a joke than an important matter. You never hear about this topic being addressed in the news; they seem to push it to the back burner and not put it on display. Also, on the social media aspect, it doesn't get the attention it deserves. There are always negative comments in regards to it stating that depression isn't a disease and shouldn't be treated as one or that anxiety isn't real. In reality, it is. It is a mental disease, something that affects our minds which is the central control system for our bodies. These types of real diseases can make us weak, it can make our bodies shut down completely and restrict us from doing the

things we use to find pleasure in. It's a block in our system, a disease that is real and can be controlled, managed and conquered. Social awareness for this disease is basically non-existent and people that suffer from this may feel embarrassed to come out and get help but we need to welcome this disease and socially promote/accept this as a real disease that we can help overcome. It wasn't until recently that it began to get addressed in music that is on the radio and that is a step in the right direction. It's time that we stop neglecting the fact that many people suffer from this and start promoting it and accepting it as a society that is willing to help and give it the attention that it needs.

EMILY MEDLIN
YSU NURSING STUDENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: CONTINUED

To the Editor:

The Ohio Department of Health states, "Every week in Ohio, 3 babies die in unsafe sleep environments." It's sad to think that new parents leave the hospital and sign a paper stating they understand the safe sleep rules, but babies are still dying. I think this issue needs to be stressed, and as a community we can get the information out. It's not worth your newborn's life to keep them in unsafe sleep environments. The best way to stress the issue is to keep releasing information and emphasizing the importance of safe sleep environment.

To create a safe sleep environment for your baby, one should follow three simple tasks: babies should be alone, on their backs, and in an empty crib also known as the ABC's of safe sleep.

The first step to safe sleep is "Alone." Caregivers should never hold a baby and nap on a bed, couch or in a chair. There is no proven way to share a bed with your baby, but you can place the baby in your room in a bassinet or crib near or next to your bed making it easier to be close to

your baby.

The next step is placing the baby on its "Back." The Ohio Department of Health says, "Babies who sleep on their backs are less likely to choke than those who sleep on their stomachs." When placing the baby on their back, dress them in light clothes and never use a blanket but instead a sleep sack, sleepers that fit correctly.

The last step in creating safe sleep environment is the "Crib." The baby needs to be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet. The crib should be empty except for the baby. If there are bumpers, blankets or stuffed animals, they need to go.

There should be no excuses as to why people can't follow these simple guidelines to keep their newborn safe. The ODH offers free cribs for people who need them. Making this issue more well-known in the community will hopefully decrease the number of deaths.

AUGUSTA FRONZAGLIO
YSU SN

To the Editor:

As the leaves begin to color and the children go back to school, it becomes that time of year again where we drive down the street, past various drug stores with the signs that read "get your flu shot here." It becomes a controversial topic every year leading ourselves to ask various questions such as, "How beneficial are these flu shots being given?" or "Are we really helping ourselves or hurting our immune systems by not allowing our bodies to build a tolerance?" Various healthcare fields and nursing schools require a seasonal influenza vaccine in order to prevent patients from becoming more ill and for a worker's own personal protection, but are we really protecting ourselves and others when medical personnel walks on to that hospital floor or in that doctor's office?

According to the CDC, there are three different types of influenzas out there labeled A, B, and C. The seasonal flu vaccine

protects mostly against strains A and B. Scientists every flu season try to predict which strains they feel will be most popular during the autumn and winter months and that is how a vaccine is created. But who is to say that even if we get vaccinated we won't contract another strain of the flu that was not covered under the original vaccine as the months progress? The virus can take on different forms that scientists call an "antigenic drift." This happens when genes of the influenza change as the virus replicates overtime. Instead of having our insurance companies billed for a shot that may or may not work due to an ever-changing virus, healthcare workers and community members should be allowed to have the choice to choose whether or not it is right for them.

MARISA DELUCA



Tevin McCaster (37) runs the ball as Central Connecticut State University as Safety Jarrod Cann tries to catch up.

Photo by MARC WEEMS/THE JAMBAR

TOP-5 CLASH IN THE 'ICE CASTLE'

CHRIS MCBRIDE

After a bye week, the Youngstown State football team (2-1) will hit the ground running as it enters Missouri Valley Football Conference play. This week, YSU goes up against the 4th-ranked South Dakota State University (3-0) Jackrabbits.

YSU closed out its nonconference portion of the schedule last week in a blowout 59-9 win over Central Connecticut State University (1-3).

In its previous outing, the Penguins' ground game managed to run the ball for eight rushing touchdowns scored by six different YSU players. The defense, meanwhile, held CCSU to just one touchdown and a lone field goal late in the game.

Last week, the team got a well-deserved break before getting back on the field for practice in preparation for the next game.

Coming off yet another stellar performance, running back Tevin McCaster spoke towards the positives of having the week off.

"We have gotten a lot of extra practice," McCaster said. "We were to watch a lot of film on SDSU and we were able to benefit from rest."

YSU Head Coach Bo Pelini said he hopes the extra preparation will help give them the jump over SDSU.

Heading into this week's game, offensive tackle Justin Spencer expressed the team's excitement over their next

matchup.

"After CCST, it's all we've been thinking about. It's not often we get a Top-5 matchup," Spencer said. "It's 'do or die' now. There's never an easy game in our conference, so you have to attack it like it's the top team you're ever gonna play. There's no room for mistakes now so we have to play our best football."

McCaster reiterated that sentiment hoping to correct the team's past struggles against SDSU.

"The key will be to get off on a good start," McCaster said. "Last year they got up 14 to nothing on us in the first quarter so it'll be great for us to get off to a good start and we will."

In the last meeting, YSU turned the ball over twice with SDSU capitalizing off both turnovers with scores. The Penguins went on to lose that game 24 to 10 on the road. YSU's only scoring drive came late in the fourth quarter.

"We can't give them those points. We have to be better to begin the game and continue to progress as the game goes on," Spencer said.

For seniors, such as linebacker Lee Wright, this game holds an extra sense of importance. In his playing days at YSU, the Penguins have yet to beat SDSU.

"I take things like that personal," Wright said. "Coach [Pelini] talks about it every year, this is a game he looks forward to and we look forward to it too."

As a leader on defense, Wright stressed the important role the defense will play in a game he expects to be phys-

ical.

"You can't let them get in the groove of the game, can't let them get a rhythm, you have to be tough on them early in the game," said Wright.

The defense will have its work cut out for them going against a team that has scored an impressive 31 points per game this season. Their team is coming off an 51-10 victory in their previous game against Drake University (2-2). SDSU's high powered offense has also managed to outscore opponents 92-17 in the first half.

"They can hurt you in a number of different areas," Pelini said. "So therefore you have to be on point. We'll prepare hard this week and hopefully develop a game plan to compete at a high because that's what it's going to take."

For Pelini, he's still looking for the team to do the little things as he searches for success in the details.

"We're able to identify some areas we can get better at and things we can do well and then try to continue to work on those things," Pelini said. "Saturday will be a good test for us and for SDSU, you learn a lot from your football team in a game like this."

Pelini also gave an injury update on players, more notably quarterback Hunter Wells who has been cleared for this week's game coming back from a shoulder injury.

Youngstown State will clash with South Dakota State University this Saturday as they hope to continue their September home win streak on Sept. 30 at 7:00 p.m. at Stambaugh Stadium.

PRESS BOX PERSPECTIVE: A LITTLE SUNDAY POLITICS

SETH RIVELLO

Many fans use Sunday to get away from the drama of the outside world. They sit back and watch their favorite football team play and relax; politics is the last thing swirling around in their minds. For the past year now, politics is the only thing being talked about. Turn on ESPN or FOX Sports and there is a discussion on kneeling, sitting or raising a fist during the national anthem and/or Donald Trump.

On Aug. 26, 2016, during the San Francisco 49ers third preseason game, a photographer noticed former star quarterback Colin Kaepernick sitting during the national anthem. Kaepernick sat for the first two preseason games also, but no one noticed. Now the picture of him sitting was national news. When asked about sitting for the anthem Kaepernick responded, "because of the oppression of people of color and ongoing issues with police brutality."

It slowly took the league by storm. The next week, Kaepernick and teammate Eric Reid took a knee together, and even inner division rival Jeremy Lane of the Seattle

Seahawks took a seat. In the first game of the 2017 season, linebacker Brandon Marshall of the Denver Broncos took a knee. He was the first player to kneel during a regular season game.

"I'm not against the military. I'm not against the police or America," Marshall said, according to the Denver Post. "I'm against social injustice."

More teams were adding to the protest. The Miami Dolphins had players kneel, the Philadelphia Eagles had players raising their fists and standing, the Seattle Seahawks locked arms. The protests were spreading outside of the NFL also. High School football players were kneeling, and so were college and high school bands. It was becoming bigger than football.

In the early months of 2017, the kneeling wasn't consistently talked about and Kaepernick no longer had a job. Some people think Kaepernick united the league, and some think he and his followers are just disrespecting the flag, but that isn't the case. More and more professional athletes have been taking a stand.

On Sept. 23, 2017, Bruce Maxwell of the Oakland Athletics took a knee during the anthem, the first professional baseball player to do so. The next day, before Game 1 of the Women's National Basketball Association Finals,

players from the Los Angeles Sparks stayed in the locker room during the anthem.

On Friday, Donald Trump had this to say regarding players kneeling: "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a b---- off the field right now. Out. He's fired. He's fired!'"

Players were absolutely outraged and banded together. Last Sunday, the Pittsburgh Steelers decided to stay in the locker room for the national anthem in protest, except for former Army Ranger and current offensive tackle Alejandro Villanueva. Every team locked arms or knelt together to show Trump who the real "son of a b----" is.

Odell Beckham Jr. also showed off some big-time patriotism over the weekend. After catching his first touchdown of the season, he decided to walk on all fours and lift his leg like a dog. Then, after his second touchdown catch, he raised his fist up high in protest. Beckham said after the game, "I peed on somebody." It's believed he was "peeing" on President Trump. Could you imagine if Kaepernick, instead of an All-Pro receiver, celebrated like this?

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"My brother lives in Boca Raton and decided to stay because he's been through storms before," Pollock said. "You could just hear the wind in the background when I was FaceTiming them," Pollock said.

Pollock managed to keep tabs on his family, friends and former teachers from back home, using Facebook in some cases, to make sure everyone was safe.

Fortunately for Pollock's family, the storm only caused minor roof damage. Others, Pollock said, weren't so lucky, with some friends having water up to their

knees in their homes.

Johnson Louigene

Junior defensive end Johnson Louigene is a Florida native from the small farming town of Immokalee, Fla.

Louigene first got word of the storm as he watched the news in his dorm.

"Once they said the eye was going to pass over my town, I called my mom," Louigene said. "I asked her if she needed anything, whether she was okay because a lot of the stores were closed so she couldn't get what she needed."

Louigene's town has received some of the harshest damage from Irma with flooding plaguing most of his town. The destruction has left many Immokalee res-

idents homeless.

With his mom, dad, aunts, uncles and other close family and friends thousands of miles away facing a difficult road ahead, communication was key.

"After the storm, all the power was knocked out and I was freaking out because I couldn't get in contact with her [mom] and didn't know what to do. I had never felt so helpless," Louigene said.

Louigene described the toll it took on him to focus on his performance on and off the football field with everything going on as being a "bad week" for him mentally.

Once Louigene was able to talk with his mother again, he learned she and other

close relatives had taken up shelter in a local elementary school.

Much like Pollock, Louigene is no stranger to hurricanes growing up in Florida but this particular storm gave him a new perspective.

"I wasn't old enough to grasp how dangerous it was as a kid; sometimes during major storms we'd go out in play in the rain ... I finally see the full seriousness of it and think of how stupid that was," Louigene said.

Now, relief efforts have begun. Louigene has been trying to help those back home even from Youngstown, donating to food drives to do his part in helping his city rebuild.



Kyle Hegedus (10) looks to get the tackle on Antwann Anderson (24) against Central Connecticut State University. Hegedus had ACL surgery last year.

Photo by **MARC WEEMS/THE JAMBAR**

FROM TORN ACL TO STARTING SAFETY: *THE KYLE HEGEDUS STORY*

MARC WEEMS

After a disappointing freshman year due to injury, Youngstown State University safety Kyle Hegedus is ready to go.

Hegedus tore his right ACL during YSU's game against the University of Northern Iowa. He recorded just five tackles before he got hurt as a redshirt freshman.

Three games into the 2017 season, Hegedus has recorded 22 tackles with one interception. He is an important piece of YSU giving up just 37 points this season.

"Coming off an ACL injury, I'm sure that was tough for him," YSU linebacker Armand Dellovade said. "He was in the weight room every day. He was making sure he was ready for the season."

Dellovade added that he's glad Hegedus is back because of how good of a player

he is.

Hegedus is currently the leading tackler on the team with his 22 just ahead of linebacker Lee Wright and fellow safety Jalyn Powell with 21.

"He had injury but he's one of the hardest working guys that I've ever been around," YSU defensive backs coach Richard McNutt said. "Almost a week after he was hurt, he was back doing rehab. He was working his butt off. It had definitely paid off for him."

McNutt said he loves the way Hegedus keeps everybody on the field where they need to be.

Before Hegedus came to YSU, he was a star high school safety for Lakewood St. Edward's in Cleveland, Ohio. He recorded 135 tackles, four interceptions and 12 pass breakups in route to a Division I championship.

Hegedus spoke about how he has recovered from the injury and how he felt

about it.

"At first, I did a little bit of special teams and I was backup safety with the next man up mentality," Hegedus said. "My whole plan was to play as much as I could. I was getting good leadership behind Leroy Alexander and those guys. Then, I ended up getting down."

Hegedus said all he could do was just get back up and get going on his recovery.

"He was ready to play for us last year. He has always mentally prepared himself," McNutt said. "Now that he is physically ready, we are not missing a step. He's able to jump on in and get the job done."

McNutt expressed how important it is to use Hegedus' smarts on the field to push the Penguins play further than ever.

"We just gave him positive reinforcement. It was like, 'hey, just keep working man.' It isn't much to say but I'm sure it goes a long way," Dellovade said.

As the anchor of YSU's defense last sea-

son, Dellovade recorded 2.5 sacks and 105 total tackles. This year, Dellovade had just 15 tackles but seems perfectly fine with not being the top tackler.

"It definitely is not fun at all. Especially since I have to wear a brace and it hasn't even been a year since the injury," Hegedus said about playing after the ACL tear. "It definitely does suck. It's just something that I've had to adapt to."

Hegedus also said there are occasional hesitations in his game but nothing that slows him down.

"He prepares the right way. He prepares for success week in and week out. The things that he does make mistakes on, he works hard to correct," McNutt said.

McNutt also added that Hegedus is a great young man who always puts himself in great position for success.

Hegedus and the Penguins will get a test with the start of Missouri Valley Football Conference play on Sept. 30.