

# THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931.

PAGE 4

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

### THE SIDEBAR



#### FEATURE

Transformers are back for revenge ..... 4

#### NEWS

News Briefs ..... 2

Police Briefs ..... 2

A new crop of green banks sprouting ..... 2

#### EDITORIAL

Buckle down fleeing graduates ..... 3

Being fat may soon be a sin ..... 3

#### FEATURE

Wii need to get fit ..... 4

Going Organic ..... 4

### yo\* calendar

Brought to you by [the yo\* magazine] a special twice-a-year publication of The Jambar

#### broaden yo\* horizons

**Honk! The Musical**  
Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m.  
Boardman Performing Arts Center \$10

**Wheelin' by Wildflowers Bike Ride**  
Sunday, 2 p.m.  
MetroParks Bikeway at Kirk Rd.

#### plan yo\* night

**Rib Burn Off**  
Thursday through Sunday, 5 p.m.  
Eastwood Mall \$7

**Guys Without Ties**  
Saturday, 9 p.m.  
Rosetta Stone

#### WEATHER

Today	☁	87° 61°
Friday	☀	83° 64°
Saturday	☀	76° 54°
Sunday	☁	80° 61°
Monday	☀	82° 60°
Tuesday	☀	84° 59°
Wednesday	☁	83° 60°



Remember to recycle your copy of The Jambar.

## DAYCARE DAYS MAY BE NUMBERED

Lamar Salter  
REPORTER

The Beeghly College of Education's community daycare program could be shut down if a proposal from the Governor to cut funding is approved.

Established in 2006, the daycare center falls under the Early Learning Initiative

(ELI), a statewide program designed to help provide childcare assistance to low income families. The program is now at risk of being cut from the state due to budget problems.

According to Lenal Morrello, the supervisor of Family services for the Mahoning County Educational Family Service center (MSCESC), the program's budget of about \$125 million was originally

planned to shrink to 85 million. However, this past Friday Gov. Ted Strickland proposed to cut the program completely.

The State of Ohio's budget is currently at a 3.2 billion dollar budget gap according to Allison Kolodziej, the Deputy Communications Director for the governor's office.

"The governor is making DAYCARE page 2

## O-H...I('m)-O(utta here)

Study finds Ohio students likely to leave after graduation

Jessica Petrinjak  
REPORTER

According to a recent study by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, Ohio college students feel the need to flee the area after graduation. The Institute conducted a survey and discovered most students felt that their futures rested somewhere other than Ohio.

In Ohio, there are 75 four-year institutions of higher education which services more than 620,000 students. The Fordham survey concluded that more than half of these students plan to leave Ohio after graduation.

Some Youngstown State University students agree that they need to leave the area, while others plan to stick around. Colleen Sullivan, senior public relations and advertising major, feels the need to leave. She said it would best suit her degree to move out of the Youngstown area.

"I believe that there are more opportunities for me in a bigger city," Sullivan said.

She said she may be able to find a job in the area if she wanted to work in the public relations field, but for advertising, she feels the need to search elsewhere.

"I think that Chicago or

New York would be ideal because those places are known for their major advertising firms," Sullivan said

Her ideal location is Pittsburgh. She said advertising jobs are more abundant in larger cities and Pittsburgh is not too far away from home.

More than 600,000 Ohioans are unemployed and 235,000 jobs were lost in the last year.

According to The Ohio Education Gadget, a weekly bulletin for the Fordham Institute, it is vital for Ohio's economy to have educated people stay in the area.

Senior middle child education major Matt Lucarell intends to take that advice.

"It may take some time to find a full-time teaching job, but I will just do a lot of subbing until then," Lucarell said.

He said he wants to remain in the area because the cost of living is cheap and will be happy to find work with decent pay.

"I would prefer a union teaching job because of the security and benefits," Lucarell said.

"I believe that there are more opportunities for me in a bigger city."

Colleen Sullivan



Relocation would be an option for Lucarell if he absolutely could not find a good job in the area. He said he has done some research, and the best place to consider would be out west.

Whether students plan to leave Ohio or not, it is beneficial for them to have a good resume, interviewing skills and job searching abilities.

According to Gary Boley, director of Career and Counseling Services, there are many things students can do to find a job. He said the use of the Internet should only be a small component of job searching. He advises students to isolate and target a specific industry or employer and make contact with them.

"Let your fingers do the walking in the yellow pages," Boley said.

## Survey rates Obama's first 100 days

Kelli Phillips  
WED EDITOR

Much like other areas of the country, President Barack Obama has a high approval rating in Youngstown.

A recent study conducted by the Center for Working Class Studies, which focused on Obama's first 100 days in office, showed that 87% of the 891 participants either approved or highly approved of Obama's performance, while 73% believed the country is moving in the right direction. The national approval rating for Obama's first 100 days was 65%, according to a Gallup Poll.

The Center's survey was available online from May 1 through May 15, and coding within the Web site "made it impossible" for respondents to

take the survey more than once. After the results were analyzed, they were released June 3.

"During the election last fall, the Center for Working Class Studies was contacted for information regarding voting patterns and the economy ... Because of these interviews and discussions as part of the elections, we decided to do this survey," CWCS co-director John Russo said.

"We sent notification [of the upcoming online survey] to every local community or political network," Russo said, "but we were uncertain of how many people would respond." These networks included labor unions, business groups and newspapers, as well as local leaders and activists.

Because of its ad-hoc format, "people chose to take the survey," he said. Russo was surprised to, have more than

900 surveys submitted. Yet, there is no way of knowing exactly how many responses came from each individual network or group.

"This was a learning experience for us," Russo said. "Right now, we are trying to get as many people as possible to participate ... and have a more diverse population."

The results from the survey were primarily consistent with that from other national questionnaires. However, there were differing views concerning the automobile industry bailout.

"In national surveys, people were against the government helping General Motors; however, in our survey, people were for it," Russo said.

The CWCS will conduct four surveys per year; the next one will take place at the beginning of the fall semester.

## Students nominated for "Man of the Year Award"

Sam Marhulik  
REPORTER

For members of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity, the Ellsworth C. Dent "Man of the Year" award is the most prestigious individual honor they can earn.

Every year the Fraternity Awards Committee selects five finalists nationally from various chapters of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. The Society of Seventeen at the fraternity's annual meeting interviews the five finalists individually and the society then chooses the "Man of the Year."

In order to win the award, the finalists are judged on a number of criteria.

They are judged on their academic achievement, chapter leadership, campus leadership, service to campus or community, honors and citations, scholarships, personal character and an essay on career objectives.

This year, among the five finalists for the award are two Youngstown State University students Nick Durse and Andrew Emig.

Durse and Emig join many other YSU students who have been nominated for the award. If either Durse or Emig wins the award, they will join YSU student Thomas Krupko, who was last year's winner.

Krupko was a four-year member of the YSU football team and also a past Sigma Tau Gamma president.

Greg Gulas, the Assistant Director of Student Programming, wrote the letter of recommendation for Durse and said he hopes that even though a YSU student won the award last year, that there will still be an even playing field.

"Just because we had a student win last year, it shouldn't mean that Nick or Andrew don't have a chance. Both of them go beyond for the fraternity and have had a great deal of involvement with the campus," Gulas said.

Emig is also a University Scholar and has organized several fundraising events. Last year, he helped organize Skollapalooza, a fundraiser for scholars where several bands played at the B&O Station.

Amy Cossentino, Assistant Director at the University Scholars & Honors Programs wrote Andrew's letter of recommendation.

Cossentino said having two students nominated for this award from the same school says a lot about YSU.

"It speaks volumes about the quality of students we have at YSU. It's good to know we can go out a compete with the best of the best."

I know both Nick and Andrew, and it really is an honor for this school, especially since one of our own won this award last year," Cossentino said.

## News Briefs

### Bliss Hall bids farewell to dean

Joe Edwards, dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts, will retire after 50 years at Youngstown State University. He will officially end his role as dean on June 30. He plans to return to YSU to teach part time.

Bryan DePoy, interim dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Southeastern Louisiana University, will take over the position on July 1.

### Students receive awards to study abroad

Two Youngstown State University students earned Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships to study abroad. Sarah Lewis, a senior political science and Spanish major, will go to Costa Rica in August to participate in the Spanish, Ecological and Latin American Studies program. Tara Esker, a senior psychology major, will head to England in September to study at the University of Winchester.

The Gilman Scholarship Program was established by the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 and is congressionally funded.

### Festival of the Arts goes green

Youngstown State University's Summer Festival of the Arts will have an Eco-Art contest sponsored in part by the Mahoning County Green Team. This is the first year for the festival to hold this contest. Artists of any level can submit works made of repurposed or recycled materials. The two-day festival will take place on July 11 and 12.

Anyone who wishes to participate must fill out a submission form available at [www.ysu.edu/sfa](http://www.ysu.edu/sfa) and deliver their pieces on July 10.

## Police Briefs

A car accident was reported at the construction site at Lincoln Avenue on June 19.

A black Chevrolet Cavalier crashed through the fence at the site and landed in a ditch.

Six skateboarders were reported trespassing on the YSU tennis courts on June 21 around 8 p.m. None of the suspects were YSU students and all six were issued trespass warnings and advised to leave.

A YSU police officer was attacked while attempting to subdue two suspicious individuals walking on Elm street towards Fedor Hall on June 22.

The two suspects, a female and a male who was carrying a wooden staff with a red bandanna tied to it, were asked to come to the squad car after being seen asking strangers for money, in which they refused. After attempting to move the suspects to the car, the male suspect began to run towards Beeghly Center. Two officers pursued and caught the suspect.

During attempts to handcuff the suspect, officer Cox was struck in the eye. The suspect was eventually subdued and charged with begging and possession of an illegal substance after searching through his bag.

Officer Cox was sent to St. Elizabeth's hospital where he was treated for his wound.

# PLANET FACEBOOK:

## Is social-networking site a phenomenon or a fad?

Scott Duke Harris  
 SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

Is Facebook a phenomenon — or a fad? Even as it has grown to more than 200 million users and become the global leader in social-networking Web sites, many people see it as just a nifty way for people to share information and images among far-flung friends and acquaintances.

But admirers say Mark Zuckerberg's 5-year-old startup is poised to fulfill hype as the next big thing — that it will power online social interaction the way Google drives online search. Facebook is aggressively moving beyond the home page to pursue its mission to become a "social utility" that helps people "connect and share."

To typical users, Facebook may seem a stand-alone Web site — a vehicle for people to renew and revitalize personal relationships, to post comments and photos, and perhaps play games. But more than 10,000 Web sites now recognize a service called Facebook Connect, which enables users to use their Facebook ID and password to move fluidly between sites where registration is required.

The service also adds new social functions to those other sites. For example, a person who posts a video on YouTube can also share it via Facebook with a single click. And Facebook has global reach, having been translated into 50 languages, with 40 more in development, the company says.

Every new Facebook user, every "friend" added, every business that starts a page, every Web entity that recognizes Facebook Connect — all add to the critical mass behind Facebook's momentum. From a business perspective, the connections enhance the value of what Facebook calls the "social graph" — its ever-expanding map of human relationships — even while skeptics wonder about its ability to turn its popularity into profit.

How important is Facebook? Shouting over live rock at a recent Facebook party at a San Francisco nightclub, Mark Pincus, founder and CEO of fast-growing online game maker Zynga, likened it to Netscape, the browser startup that launched the dot-com boom in 1995.

Separately, Joe Greenstein, co-founder of Flixster, a site that lets film buffs share reviews and comments, suggested that Facebook Connect represents the 21st-century upgrade of e-mail. If Google ignited the so-called Web 2.0 business era, Facebook may be ushering in Web 3.0, he said. The opportunity, Greenstein said, "is theirs to lose."

Those assessments contrast sharply to some other notable perspectives. A year ago, Internet mogul Barry Diller elicited laughter at a business conference by dismissing Facebook

as "a Princess phone" — a communications fad. Similarly, Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corp. empire includes Facebook rival MySpace, was once quoted as calling Facebook "the flavor of the month."

But while Facebook doubled its user base in the past year, MySpace has been slipping. While Facebook only recently surpassed MySpace in U.S. users — both have about 70 million each, according to comScore — Facebook appears far more successful in holding users' attention.

A recent study by Nielsen Online found that the total amount of time Americans spent on Facebook in April increased to more than 233 million hours, a nearly 700 percent increase over April 2008. MySpace, meanwhile, endured a 30 percent decline.

In April, News Corp. hired former Facebook executive Owen Van Natta to take over as CEO of MySpace. This week, Van Natta announced plans to cut about 400 jobs from MySpace's "bloated" work force.

Facebook's own lofty aims were underscored during a spring news conference where Christopher Cox, vice president of product, delivered a presentation that included a portrait of the communications theorist Marshall McLuhan, known for saying, "The medium is the message."

Even as the globe has lurched into recession, the Facebook economy seems to be booming. In the two years since Facebook opened its platform to outside developers, more than 300,000 Facebook applications, or "apps," have been created — games, quizzes, digital gifts and more. The successful apps boost users' engagement with Facebook — sometimes called "stickiness" — but do not directly provide revenue.

Piggybacking on Facebook has been profitable for several startups. Zynga, which according to some reports is raking in annual revenues of \$100 million with the poker game Texas Hold 'Em and other games, has grown from 45 employees to more than 250 in the past year, Pincus said.

About "70 percent, perhaps 80 percent" of Zynga's growth, he said, could be attributed to Facebook.

Flixster's growth also illustrates Facebook's role as a driver of Web innovation. Founded in January 2006, Flixster.com was attracting about 4 million monthly unique visitors when Facebook opened its development platform. Fearing competition, Flixster quickly built its own Facebook app.

More recently, Flixster built an app for Apple's iPhone — and it's activated via Facebook Connect. "It's the glue," Greenstein said.

The success of Facebook's development platform has inspired a trend: Google, MySpace, Twitter, Bebo, Yahoo and the Apple iPhone have all opened up to outside developers.

### DAYCARE page 1

tough decisions," Kolodziej said. She also said that the children already enrolled in ELI would continue to stay until they reach kindergarten and that the governor was working on ways to "open up talks" for early childcare programs with the Ohio Legislature.

Morello said that about 600 children in the Mahoning County alone would be affected and about 300 in Trumbull County.

Patty Dragovich a childcare provider for ELI addressed the need for the program saying that if passed, over "30,000 children in Ohio would be affected."

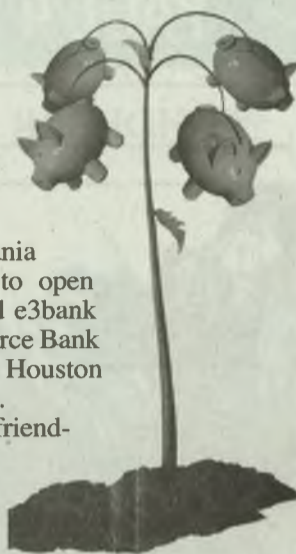
"If we lose this program, families all over the county would lose out," Dragovich said, adding that the program could be saved if the Ohio Legislature is persuaded in keeping it.

ELI is not the only program facing budget cuts. Services such as the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Job and Family Services are also facing budget shrinks if the governor's budget is approved.

The proposal will be turned into the Ohio Legislature by June 30 at which a final ruling will be made, according to Kolodziej.

# A new crop of green banks sprouting

Becky Yerak  
 CHICAGO TRIBUNE



A growing number of green banks are sprouting up.

In recent months, investor groups in Illinois and Pennsylvania have gotten regulatory approval to open GreenChoice Bank in Chicago and e3bank in Malvern, Pa., joining New Resource Bank in San Francisco, Green Bank in Houston and First Green Bank in Eustis, Fla.

The banks are marketing Earth-friendly policies such as lower interest rates on loans to green builders and borrowers who buy fuel-efficient cars, as well as incentives to depositors who opt out of paper statements.

Consumer services, including banking, is a hot segment for the green movement, according to research firm Mintel. A Mintel survey found that 56 percent of respondents find paperless accounts to be ecologically friendly, not just a cost-cutting ploy.

With bank failures on the rise and the economy in turmoil, GreenChoice Bank, aspires to be one of the Midwest's first green lenders.

"Sustainability has entered the mainstream, as evidenced by the ubiquity of 'green' messaging and reporting in the media," said GreenChoice's application with the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Steve Sherman, who will be GreenChoice's chief operating officer, is accredited in green building practices by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED.

On June 2, GreenChoice received conditional regulatory approval, and it hopes to raise \$13.5 million to \$16 million in capital. GreenChoice expects to provide better terms for, say, a green builder, or a higher rate for consumers who opt out of receiving paper statements. The differential hasn't been set.

It'll also be pushing envelope-free ATMs and remote deposit capture, in which a business customer can deposit checks without visiting a bank. First Green Bank, which opened in February, offers zero-interest loans to workers who buy cars that get more than 30 miles a gallon.

A campaign to raise at least \$20 million in capital at e3bank will be partly conducted online. The three e's in its name stand for environment, economy and social equity.

Redstone Bank, which was renamed Green Bank in 2007, emphasizes home-efficiency projects. For example, a green home-improvement loan with a principal of at least \$200,000 will receive annual rewards of \$500. The bank's Web site outlines required improvements, including water-saving dual-flush toilets.

Green Bank Chief Executive Geoffrey Greenwade noted that there are fewer delinquencies on green banking products because borrowers "tend to be higher income and better educated" and are "a little better at paying bills."

Green Bank has financed some home-building projects with energy efficiency and LEED certification construction.

"These have averaged around \$800,000, with a quarter of a percent discount from the current interest rate," Greenwade said. "We recently approved a \$2 million home construction loan" expected to have green elements.

Traditional banks such as Chase, Harris and Bank of America offer numerous green products and services. And others are getting nudged along.

Little Green Tree House soon will open an environmentally friendly day-care center, financed partly by a \$1 million-plus loan from PrivateBank, a traditional lender.

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### OUR SIDE EDITORIAL

## Buckle down fleeing graduates

### RELATED STORY

GRADUATION, page 1

### THE JAMBAR EDITORIAL BOARD

As recent Youngstown State University graduates walked off of the stage with their degrees this past semester, many of them likely walked on to airplanes headed out of state. A recent study by the Thomas B. Fordham Institute found that more than half of Ohio's enrolled college students plan to flee the state for job opportunities after graduation.

One of the main reasons cited in the study was Ohio's lack of growth and innovation in the technology fields, a valid argument as areas such as ours is still stuck in a low-tech manufacturing mindset.

These complaints aren't going unheard. Efforts are currently being made to help Youngstown and then state move more towards a technology based economy.

This week YSU hosted the Sustainable Energy Forum, a conference discussing ways to turn our area into the "buckle" of the projected tech belt stretching from Cleveland to Morgantown, West Virginia. The focus was to bring the region together in a joint project to research technology development for sustainable energy.

In order to succeed, our region needs to again find its niche in the market, as it did years ago with steel, but take a broader approach so we aren't left devastated if the technology being produced in the valley goes by the wayside.

Development of these new innovations may not convince everyone to stay in town, but if the area starts to grow, we may begin drawing graduates from other states here, essentially turning the trend into our favor on our way to a more stable economy.

### OUR SIDE POLICY

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor and news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff. The Jambar's business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

### YOUR SIDE POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. E-mail submissions are welcome at [editor@thejambar.com](mailto:editor@thejambar.com). Letters should concern campus issues, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification and the writer's city of residence for printing. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries that are libelous or that don't defend opinion with facts from reliable sources. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitting writer based on these requirements.

Letters will not be rejected based on the view expressed in them. Letters may be rejected if they are not relevant to Jambar readers, seek free publicity or if the editorial staff decides the subject has been sufficiently aired. The Jambar will not print letters that libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. The Jambar does not withhold the names of writers of letters or guest commentaries.

The views and opinions expressed in letters and commentaries on the opinion page do not necessarily reflect those of The Jambar staff. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the faculty, staff or administration of Youngstown State University.



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

### COMMENTARY

## Being fat may soon be a sin

William F. Shughart II  
MCT

History, as Franklin Delano Roosevelt once remarked, does in fact repeat itself.

Not long after taking office as the nation's first treasury secretary, Alexander Hamilton persuaded Congress to enact a selective excise tax on whiskey. He believed that the consumption of distilled spirits, "carried on to an extreme, no doubt very much on account of their cheapness," threatened the health and morals of the new American community as well as its economy.

Hamilton's tax nearly ended in bloodshed, averted at the last minute when the Whiskey Rebellion's leaders surrendered to a federal militia led by President George Washington himself.

Americans thought the Revolution had freed them from the duties King George had levied on tea, newspapers, legal documents, soap and salt, among others. But before the Constitution was even a decade old, selective consumption taxes — including on snuff, sugar and salt — had returned in full force. Such taxes have been with us more or less ever since.

Secretary Hamilton exploited moral opposition to "demon rum" in order to help pay off the nation's Revolutionary War debts. Now, more than two centuries later, sin taxes are again in play as Congress looks for ways to finance President Barack Obama's proposed health-care reform initiative, which may cost as much as \$1.5 trillion over 10 years.

Recognizing that further hikes on existing federal excise taxes for Congress' two old standbys — alcohol and tobacco — will not raise enough revenue, Washington is considering selectively taxing "sugary" soft drinks that supposedly contribute to the modern sin of obesity. Fat cats apparently are not the only Americans who may see their tax bills go up.

Proving FDR's adage, this, would not be the first time federal excise taxes have been levied on soft drinks. One such tax was enacted during World War I, but then repealed in 1924; another was in effect briefly at the start of the New Deal. The states also have gotten

into the act from time to time, but soft drink taxes have been abolished in all but two states that experimented with them: Arkansas and West Virginia.

Suggesting that "soda is clearly one of the most harmful products in the food supply," as the executive director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest recently did, recasts the proposed excise tax as one with a positive effect: nudging consumer behavior toward a healthier lifestyle. According to one estimate, a tax of one cent per fluid ounce on carbonated soft drinks would raise \$17 billion per year and reduce consumption by 13 percent. This appears to allow the federal government to do well by doing good.

Yet the reality is that soft drink sales have already been declining for the last nine years without a federal excise tax. While correlation is not causation, it is clearly a stretch to argue that sodas have contributed significantly to a nationwide obesity "epidemic." In fact, the obesity rates in the two states that do tax soft drinks are among the nation's highest.

Selective excise taxes violate a widely accepted principle of public finance known among economists as "horizontal equity." This principle suggests that individuals in similar economic circumstances ought to bear similar tax burdens. In other words, one person's tax bill should not be higher simply because of what he or she chooses to consume.

Excise taxes also are very blunt instruments for controlling consumption behavior; they punish responsible consumers as well as those who over-indulge. Worse, a soft drink tax, like all consumption taxes, would be regressive, falling more heavily on the poor than on the wealthy.

Singling out consumers of some products to finance a healthcare plan the president says will benefit all Americans is fiscal discrimination at its most brazen. And the farther the nation moves toward a single-payer health insurance program, the more pressure there will be to tax any product that anyone, anywhere, plausibly can argue is detrimental to one's health.

Today it may be carbonated soft drinks. Tomorrow, it may be ethnic food, coffee, bacon and eggs, hot dogs and red meat.

### COMMENTARY

## Time for action on global climate change

McClatchy Tribune  
MCT

Remember all that talk about how global warming was going to change our lives? It already has.

A new federal report on the effect of climate change condenses the latest science from a variety of disciplines. Among the findings:

— Heavy downpours are now twice as frequent in the Midwest as they were a century ago. Summer and winter precipitation have increased.

— Large heat waves have become more frequent in the Midwest over the past 30 years than at any time since the Dust Bowl years of the 1930s.

— Average temperatures have increased noticeably, despite year-to-year variation. The growing season has increased by more than a week, allowing more non-native plants and animals get a foothold in the state.

The report from the federal U.S. Global Change Research Program unequivocally describes the cause of climate change. It's "due primarily to human-induced emissions of heat-trapping gases."

That's a far cry from public position taken by the administration of former President George W. Bush, who didn't release a climate status report during his eight years in office.

A federal court forced the administration to release a draft climate report last year. The new report is based on that document, along with subsequent studies that have become available since then.

It spells out regional impacts of climate change — both those that have occurred and those that can be expected in the future.

Those regional impacts make a personal and compelling case for addressing the problem. "This is not some theoretical thing that will happen 50 years from now," said the report's co-author, Anthony Janetos. "Things are happening now."

They say that if you put a frog in a pot and then turn up the heat, he won't notice until the water boils.

Global warming has the same effect on many people. Its impacts have occurred slowly over time. Coupled with normal seasonal variations, they've seemed almost undetectable.

But they're very real. They can be — and have been — detected and measured. That's given us the ability to make changes before the worst effects become unavoidable.

The greatest risk of all is summarized in four words: "Thresholds will be crossed."

Climate systems and ecosystems contain what you might consider points of no return.

Cross them and things will never be the same. Pack ice disappears, permafrost melts and animals that are superbly adapted for those environments disappear forever.

That can trigger so-called feedback loops — other changes that exacerbate the impact of climate change. Large quantities of carbon dioxide, for example, could be released by the melting permafrost.

The time to address global climate change is now, when the worst environmental and economic impacts still can be avoided.

Congress should enact legislation that caps and reduces the emissions of greenhouse gases. The Obama administration should redouble efforts to negotiate an effective international treaty that cuts emissions around the globe.

send your letters to  
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SEND US AN E-MAIL

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**Danielle Dietz**  
REPORTER

Youngstown State University's Summer Festival of the Arts is back for another year bringing students, faculty and community members a variety of summertime events.

The festival, which will be held on YSU's campus July 11 and 12, will feature an array of fine and performing arts, including artists such as Laurie J. Anderson and Tony Armeni, along with ethnic and cultural participation from the Youngstown area.

Last year there were 13 different cultural booths set up near Maag Library and Ward Beecher Hall, offering information, performances and ethnic foods.

Maher Ramahi, a local independent business owner and YSU alumni, will be setting up his Palestine booth during the Festival of Nations for the seventh year in a row.

"We have a cultural exhibit from the holy land," Ramahi said. "It is a pro-

gram to let the youth and college students get involved and to let them know where Palestine is and what's going on there."

Along with the art and cultural aspect of the festival, there will be a fireworks show on July 11 at Stambaugh Stadium, hosted by B.J. Allan Phantom fireworks. The show will take place alongside the Dana All-Star Band and the 2nd Ave. Project.

Gates will open at 6:30 p.m. and festivities will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold during the night of

the event for \$10. Free ticket vouchers can also be obtained at the Festival of the Arts information tent from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the day of the event. Local voucher hot spots include the Ice Zone in Boardman and all local Handels Ice Cream and Phantom Fireworks locations.

Wick Avenue will be partially closed to accommodate the festival. The closures will be from the Service Road to the M-1 deck. Visitors will need to take Lincoln Ave. to Wick Ave. to park in the M-1 deck.



## Wii need to get fit

**Robyn Musgrove**  
REPORTER

With the majority of college-aged students overweight, low amounts of physical activity are to blame. Traditional video games are yet another distraction, preventing young people from getting up off the couch. That was until video gaming system company Nintendo created the Wii Fit, a fitness training video game.



Wii Fit combines the fun of video gaming and the exercise of a normal workout. It uses a balance board in addition to the regular gaming controllers, which allows gamers to check their body mass index, center of balance and body control.

Wii Fit has a variety of 40 exercises, activities and stretches. It places users on a level according to the own statistics shown by the BMI, balance skills and body control.

Look to [www.thejambar.com](http://www.thejambar.com) for more on the active video game and hear information from Jason Kovach, Toys R Us product advisor and student opinion.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT

## TRANSFORMERS ARE BACK FOR REVENGE



**Rick Bentley**  
MCT

Creating a sequel to the hit-movie "Transformers" was challenging for director Michael Bay, whose "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" opened Wednesday.

The main problem was how to lure back the moviegoers who made the first film a \$700 million international hit.

The original "Transformers" movie had a natural lure: the discovery of seeing the cartoon characters brought to life in a live-action production. With that gone, Bay and the writers needed to come up with a way to make the sequel equally, or more, entertaining for the fans who saw the first mega battles between the Autobots and the Decepticons.

"Transformers" writers Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci, the guys who penned the "Star Trek" script, returned to tackle the sequel script.

Kurtzman says the key was to go back to the history of the Transformers.

"Looking back at the comics and cartoons, we see that they have been on Earth for a long time," Kurtzman says. The movie goes to 17,000 B.C. to establish the threat that faces the current-day humans and robots.

That story line led to the problem of which Transformers to include. Optimus Prime and the ancient Decepticon known as The Fallen are surrounded by crowds of robots. But even that number only scratches the surface of the Autobots and Decepticons.

"The problem is there are so many fans and so

many different characters they want," says producer Lorenzo di Bonaventura. The best option was to add more Transformers and hope they appease most of the loyal fans.

Additional Transformers multiplied the technology problems for the people at Industrial Light and Magic who created the Autobots and Decepticons through banks of computers.

Each Transformer has thousands of moving parts. Optimus Prime has as many as 10,000 moving pieces while Devastator features 80,000 pieces that shift and move with each transformation. There's one sequence on top of a pyramid that is the largest simulation the company has ever done.

ILM visual effects supervisor Scott Farrer explains there was so much computer work going on at one point, the system exploded. "There were about 40-plus new characters and part of the film is in IMAX, which means higher resolution, bigger movie, higher complexity on every level," Farrer says. "This movie was like upping the game on every level."

The hurdles didn't end there for Bay. Star Shia LaBeouf crashed his truck in the middle of filming. He injured his hand so much that surgery was required.

"We were very lucky because we had shot a lot of the movie," Bay says.

For a few days, Bay filmed scenes that did not include LaBeouf. When his star finally returned to work, Bay had a cast made out of Kevlar, the material often used in bulletproof vests, to protect LaBeouf's fingers.

The injury ended up being a minor inconvenience — especially compared to the huge task that Bay and company faced before filming started.

## Going organic

*Health, politics, environment draw consumers to alternative foods*

**Cherise Benton**  
REPORTER

In an effort to be more socially responsible, many grocery shoppers turn to the green and white USDA organic certification seal for a guarantee of locally grown, free range, fair trade, eco-friendly products.

But do organics really help save the earth? Are they healthier and safer than conventionally produced foods? Are they worth the extra cost, especially during this recession?

According to Jacob Harver, owner of the local restaurant Lemon Grove Cafe, Green consumerism is a major oxymoron. He added that the true purpose of the green movement is to reduce consumption, not to be wasteful by replacing perfectly good things with sustainable and/or organic versions.

Elsa Higby, coordinator of Grow Youngstown's Community Sustained Agriculture program, said some of the biggest reasons people go organic are health, politics and the environment.

According to Higby, "organic doesn't necessarily mean sustainable practices," and the FDA allows for certain poisons that are not biodegradable.

Higby said in terms of environmental preservation, the eco-label hierarchy should be local, sustainable and then organic. It's much more ecologically responsible to purchase locally grown foods, which are produced on a smaller, more sustainable scale.

Chrystyna Zellers, the nutritionist at YSU Campus Recreation and Student Programming, said that organic foods are safer in terms of bacterial contamination.

"You really don't know what steps were taken between the farm and your house," Higby said. She added that produce could come in contact with toxins at any point, and "to be safe you should wash all produce."

Although chemicals like pesticides, preservatives and man-made fertilizers do put an extra strain on the liver, conventionally grown produce does not contain "enough pesticide to hurt you" Zellers said. Zellers added that it isn't ever a good idea to put foreign substances in the body, but "the first priority should be to learn what's healthy."

Pesticide-free junk food doesn't inherently contain more fiber. It comes from raw veggies and fruits, preferably unpeeled. Zellers explained the high price of organics causes them to sit in the grocery store for extended periods of time and lose nutrients.

However, if health problems such as a compromised immune system or food allergies arise, eating organic foods could help.

Zellers said a lot of people undergoing chemotherapy choose organics because they give the body a little bit of a break and preservatives can trigger allergic reactions.

For more information on organic foods and how to purchase CSA shares through Grow Youngstown, visit [www.growyoungstown.org](http://www.growyoungstown.org).

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