

# THE JAMBAR

The student voice of Youngstown State University since 1931

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## 26 DEGREES TO BE CUT



Photo by Abigail Cloutier / The Jambar

Students march across campus to express their opinion about reduced programs.

# Students rally to save YSU programs

By Abigail Cloutier and Yousof Hamza  
The Jambar

Even though Tuesday was Election Day, students exercised their voices on a different topic — one they didn't get to vote on. About 50 students and community members marched from DeBartolo Hall to Tod Hall with signs reading “No More Cuts” and “You're Seriously Usurping education.”

It's all in response to the announcement that the university is cutting 26 academic programs in total

between the associate's, bachelor's and master's levels.

Many students were upset with the university's budget, which noted that \$885,000 would be appropriated from the university's general fund to go toward athletics.

“So when the university increases tuition and fees that increases the budget,” Ron Strollo, the executive

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# Hours lost at Maag Library

By Sydney Stalnecker  
The Jambar

Many Youngstown State University students rely on the library for a quiet place to study and for its resources. The William F. Maag Jr. Library left its reduced hours unchanged as the university shifted back to traditional in-person classes this fall.

The library closes at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and is closed on Sundays. Before the shutdown in March 2020, the library was open until 10 p.m. during the week and open on Sundays.

Christine Adams, co-director and head of research and academic support at Maag Library, said it's currently not possible for YSU's library to stay open later. A decrease in student traffic and a lack of staff caused the reduced hours.

“We count people in the library everyday, three times a day,” Adams said. “We keep track of when there is a need and when there isn't a need.”

The gray gates preceding the circulation desk count the total number of people who enter and exit the library. The staff also counts the number of people on different floors of the building on weekdays at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. every day.

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## Library loses hours

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According to the statistics posted on Maag Library's website, the number of people entering and exiting the library via those gates dropped from 488,415 in the 2018-2019 academic year to 367,208 in the 2019-2020 academic year. This resulted in a decrease of 121,207 people. The building was closed from March 18 to Aug. 2, 2020, due to the pandemic.

During the last in-person fall semester, which occurred in fall 2019, the library recorded "an average of 103 patrons in the library during the 10 a.m. building counts, 84 patrons during the 2 p.m. counts and 62 patrons during the 7 p.m. counts."

The amount of people in the building at 7 p.m. fluctuates, but Adams said most students spend time at the library during the day.

"In the evenings here, some nights we have traffic, some nights we don't. Students do always ask for extended hours — they've always asked us — but students tend to mostly come during the day," Adams said.

The statistics covering the number of patrons total and per floor for the 2020-2021 academic year are not currently accessible. The statistics are usually posted at the end of the year.

"I didn't do an average for last year because it was just so out of the norm," Adams said.

The number of people visiting the library is not the only influencing factor on the library's hours. The amount of staff impacts the hours, too.

The library has seen a total of five retirees in the last two years, and one person has resigned. Adams said the library's staff has struggled to cover shifts and find new people.

"We had two people retire from circulation this year, and we were already kind of pushing it," Adams said. "We only had three people and just logistically, those three people could not cover seven days a week."

By the end of October, another librarian will retire. Adams said the remaining librarians are expected to work more weekend and evening shifts to fill the leaving librarian's place. Finding new people takes time, but the library is seeking people to hire.

"It takes awhile to do a search

committee, then you have to rewrite a position," Adams said. "It's time consuming to get somebody on board. In all universities it's kind of like that."

According to the 2021 operating budget for YSU, the money budgeted for classified full time employees has decreased by 26% since 2020. The YSU Fiscal 2020 Budget included \$539,655 for the salaries of full-time employees, and in 2021 it has decreased to \$398,920.

The decision to change the library's hours is not made solely by the librarians. Ana Torres, co-director of the library, and Adams work with Provost Brien Smith, who ultimately approves the hour changes.

"We go through the provost for everything," Adams said. "Before we reduced those hours, we have to OK that with the provost."

Libraries at nearby schools, such as Westminster College and Kent State University, are currently open much later.

WC's library closes at 1 a.m. Sunday through Thursday, 4:30 p.m. Friday and 12 a.m. Saturday. KSU's library closes at 12 a.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 p.m. Sunday.

The hours for each school's library are posted on their respective websites.

After looking at the hours posted by the libraries at these schools, Willow Miller, a sophomore civil and construction engineering technology major who commutes to YSU, said Maag Library should be mindful of students who have

night classes.

"It should be open a little bit longer because there are some students who have late classes," Miller said. "It'd be nice if it was open late so you can actually sit down in a quiet place, do your homework and not get distracted by anything."

Many students' assignments are due at midnight. With the reduced hours, there is a five-hour gap between when the library closes and when many assignments are due. This could leave students without the proper technology to complete their assignments.

Allee Mollica, a sophomore middle childhood education major, uses the library to complete her assignments. She lives on campus and finds the library a quiet space where she can focus.

"Personally, I get nothing done before 10 p.m.," Mollica said. "I would love to be able to go escape in a little room and get everything done because I can't get anything done at my apartment."

The library is expecting a new employee to start in the circulation department soon. After training the new employee, the library plans to reinstate its regular hours the second week of December, before finals.

The library will be open until 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and will reopen on Sundays from 1-9 p.m.

During finals week, Adams said Maag Library plans to stay open until midnight Sunday through Wednesday.



Photo by Sydney Stalneckner / The Jambar  
William F. Maag Jr. Library changed hours due to declining number of staff and students.



**Protest**

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director of intercollegiate athletics for the university, said.

Each student pays about 10% of their tuition, roughly \$1,000, toward athletics. Strollo also said the athletics department cut 22 positions last year due to the pandemic and this year some of them came back. There was also an agreement to a 1.5% pay increase for some staff.

Several students spoke out at the event from all types of programs, from music theory to the Northeast Ohio Masters of Fine Arts program.

“YSU was one place where I could realize my dreams, and it hurts my heart so badly to see that taken away from other students now,” one alumnus said.

Last week, Cassandra Lawton in the NEOMFA program started a petition to save it.

Several others also started petitions, including Jenna DeLuca, an Italian major, and Sadie Pasquale, who started one for the university in general.

Pasquale is a local teacher but is also an Italian education major. Her program is one being cut.

“I just, I felt like it was more on purpose, like they wanted more money for these other things instead of for academics. I felt like it was wrong and I wanted to

get the information out there so that people knew what was going on. So I’m just trying to spread the word so that people know that it’s not the lower enrollment. I mean, it’s bad, don’t get me wrong, but it’s not as bad as it seems if they are adding money to other areas in the university,” she said.

At the protest, several students delivered a packet to the provost’s office outlining the petition and their desire for the programs.

“I would just like for them to realize that there’s more to the university than football. I feel as if football is something that is always number one in their eyes. And I mean, I get that football is popular, I get that it does bring in money for the university. However, if they keep cutting programs, they’re going to lose those football players, because nobody goes to school just for football — you have to have a major of some sort,” Pasquale said.

An economics professor also spoke at the protest and said while he understood the need to reappropriate funds and that there are gaps in the university’s budget, cutting these programs did not make long-term financial sense for the university.

Departmental objectives to any potentially cut programs are slated to be submitted to the provost by Nov. 5.

“While it is never easy to enact these types of changes, this type of self-analysis of YSU is healthy and necessary as we continue to make deliberate, data-informed decisions to support a sustainable future for Youngstown State University,” Provost Brien Smith said.

The university’s faculty union called for a financial audit to the university in response to its budget issues. They said there has not been an institutional performance audit — which would evaluate all non-academic areas, like athletics — for 10 years.

Strollo said athletics goes through an external audit by the state every year.

Smith reassured the campus community that students enrolled in these majors will be able to finish their studies.

“It is bewildering to us that the Board of Trustees has approved massive cuts that will negatively impact students’ educations here at YSU, while refusing to apply the same cost-benefit analysis that they claim is informing these cuts to the university in its entirety—including administration and athletics,” Mark Vopat, spokesman for the union, said.

*Editor’s note: Jenna DeLuca is a member of The Jambar’s staff but does not participate in the editorial process.*

## Associate’s Level

- Electric Utility Technology - 11
- Medical Laboratory Technology - 5
- Emergency Medical Services - 1
- *Dietetic Technician - 0*
- *Computer Information Systems A - 0*
- *Medical assisting Technology - 3*
- *Drafting and Design Technology - 0*
- *Social Services Technology - 0*

## Bachelor’s Level

- Gerontology - 0
- Italian Education - 3
- Italian - 2
- Manufacturing
- Engineering - 7
- Religious Studies - 4
- Music Theory - 1
- Music History and Literature - 0
- *Family & Consumer Studies - 2*
- *Computer Information Systems B - 12*
- *Dance Management - 6*
- *French - 0*
- *Art History - 0*

## Master’s Level

- Music History and Literature - 0
- Art Education - 0
- American Studies - 7
- Interdisciplinary Visual Arts - 2
- Gerontology - 9
- Creative Writing - 9

*NOTE: Programs in italics were teach-out programs previously identified by the departments.*



Photo by C. Aileen Blaine / The Jambar

The Penguin Pantry in Kilcawley Center has a surplus of menstrual hygiene products free and available to any YSU student, but has limited hours due to a lack of human resources to work the station.

# YSU addresses period poverty

By C. Aileen Blaine  
The Jambar

With the recent remodeling of the restrooms in and around Youngstown State University's Kilcawley Center, students may have noticed new additions to the walls of women's, unisex and select men's rooms: menstrual product dispensers.

Student Government Association members are taking on a few initiatives to tackle the growing need for these hygiene products in areas of high student traffic, such as Kilcawley Center and Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. One of these measures includes the installation of the new dispensers in the remodeled restrooms.

SGA President Nicholas Koupiaris and executive Vice President Gianna Battaglia are the current faces behind the free-product dispensers. The repositories are paid for with leftover funds from SGA and are provided by Aunt Flow, a company working to address menstruating individuals' needs across the country.

"When we were first putting these in, we didn't know exactly how students would react, if they would be very popular or not," Koupiaris said.

Office of Student Experience Vice President Joy Polkabila Byers said there have been a variety of measures attempted over the past 17 years.

"Evolution-wise, we've really seen growth — it's just come in different waves across campus," Polkabila Byers said.

Former SGA administrations pushed for the 50-cent tampons and liners to be included in the food-and-drink vending machines in buildings across campus, especially after a contract with the metal restroom dispenser company Tamabrand ended a few years ago.

"There were dispensers campus-wide, and when that contract ended, so did the support of those dispensers," John Young, executive director of auxiliary services, said. "Sustainability is a big concern — making sure this is something we'll continue to support as an initiative."

The Aunt Flow machines are currently stocked under a campus janitorial agreement, but future discussions are needed to determine who will continue to restock supplies.

Battaglia said expanding the product availability relies not just on supplies and human resources, but also on finances.

"As we keep installing these in different buildings and departments, we also have to keep in mind what our budget entails," she said. "Not only does that entail the cost of the dispenser and putting them in the bathrooms, but also how much money we have to restock."

For those living in student housing, the Kilcawley Center dispensers only go so far. Within the last two years, the CVS Pharmacy on Fifth Avenue closed, leaving many on-campus residents without nearby access to products beyond what's available in dorms, the campus Barnes & Noble and the vending machines in buildings locked overnight and on weekends. This makes it all the more difficult for those in and around campus to get what they need if they lack transportation.

The Penguin Pantry, a resource for students who may be food insecure, also offers a variety of hygiene and toiletry products, including pads and tampons. Any student is able to use the pantry. They're only asked to fill out an online form for item requests under a first name and last name initial, which can reduce the embarrassment or anxiety some students may feel.

The pantry offers sanitary wipes, tampons, pads and liners that can be picked up at a time and date of the student's choice. They can send someone else to pick up the order to preserve anonymity.

Michael Cline, SGA vice president for Assessment and Enrichment, observed that the pantry doesn't get as much use as it could, but he acknowledged that factors such as time constraints, embarrassment or lack of awareness may cause this.

"It's an asset to students that they haven't really seen and utilized, and it's something that we're really trying to get up off the ground," Cline said. "It's not just canned goods — it's feminine hygiene products and personal hygiene products in general."

Though the pantry has an abundance of supplies, a shortage of staff to work at the pantry's physical location in Kilcawley Center limits the hours, which are as follows:

- Monday: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., 2–4 p.m.
- Tuesday: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.
- Friday: 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

"Everywhere's hiring right now, so it's kind of difficult to hire a pantry worker right now," Cline said. "But we're in the final stages of hiring somebody, which will open up those hours that the pantry can be open."

In the meantime, SGA plans to expand the Aunt Flow dispensers to restrooms across campus. The timeline has yet to be determined, according to Koupiaris.

"We would hope this initiative is as important to the next SGA administration as it is to us," Battaglia said. "We've heard so much positive feedback on so many different platforms from students, and I hope that is enough for them to want to keep it going."



Photo by Austin Caroline / The Jambar

Independent Radio Taxi van ready to pick up passengers.

# Helping Youngstown one ride at a time

By Austin Caroline  
The Jambar

As ride sharing services like Uber and Lyft become more popular, it's hard to imagine that a taxi service is able to stay in business and compete, but Independent Radio Taxi in Youngstown is doing just that.

Independent Radio Taxi has been located and operating out of an office building at 308 1/2 W. Federal Plaza ever since it first opened in 1942. Despite the competition in the area from other ride sharing services, the company has been able to stay in business and continue providing transportation for the greater Youngstown area.

Elizabeth Solch, head dispatcher for Independent Radio Taxi, said the company is able to compete with the other services because they offer better fare rates.

"The first mile and a half is \$5, and \$2.50 every mile after that. Once you go so far out, it starts to become a flat rate," she said. "We also run 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, and our rates do not increase based on the time of day or if it's a holiday."

Solch also said that the company is able to compete with the other services because it offers more than a normal taxi service.

"We do a lot more than just cash trips. We drive to all of the hospitals, we drive for welfare, we drive for a lot of the big name factories like Astroshave and Mancan," Solch said. "We have a lot of different companies that we drive for, more so than just people going where they need to go."

The ability to run all day gives the service an advantage over the competition, as Uber and Lyft tend not to run downtown at night.

Solch also said the company never has to worry about somebody impersonating one of its drivers. The company consistently uses the same drivers, and all of the cars are marked with the company logo.

Despite being such a prominent business in the city, some Youngstown State University students aren't aware of Independent Radio Taxi and use other services when necessary.

Misty King, a sophomore biochemistry student at

YSU, said whenever she needed a ride in the past, her go-to was to order an Uber.

"I used Uber twice a week for nine months," King said. "Whenever I used it on the weekends, it was about \$8 a trip. Whenever I used it on the weekdays, it went up to \$12 to \$14 a trip."

She also said she usually felt safe using Uber, but she did say that she would carry pepper spray with her.

Richard Bonnette, a senior business administration student at YSU, also said he would use Uber if he was in need of a ride anywhere.

"My average trip was between Brookfield and Youngstown, and was around 10 miles and averaged 20 minutes drive time," he said. "In the morning, it was rare to find a driver, same for around lunch time."

Bonnette also said his trips would usually cost between \$20-24, not including a tip, and that the price was always subject to change based on the season or how close it was to a holiday.

To set up transportation with Independent Radio Taxi, visit the downtown office or call 330-746-8844.



# YSU students share thoughts on general election

By Kaitlyn McCarthy  
The Jambar

Students at Youngstown State University expressed their opinions on voting since general elections took place Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Some students feel that voting is an effective way of being heard. Junior psychology major Rylee Gresley feels that every vote matters.

“Honestly, I think every vote matters and that your vote can make a difference, so I definitely think voting is very important. It may not seem like your one vote will matter, but it definitely will,” Gresley said.

Junior biology major Joseph Hamper believes voting to be one of the best ways to allow students to have a voice.

“I vote and I believe it’s one of the most important things people can do. Voting allows citizens to share their opinions in a world that’s always changing and evolving. It allows for minorities and oppressed individuals to have a voice of change. It’s an actual, physical documentation of their right to change the democracy and its government for the better of everyone,” Hamper said.

Other students, however, believe that voting doesn’t make an impact. Some students, such as sophomore music composition major Jesse Crownover, did not participate in the election Tuesday.

“I don’t vote. I refuse to endorse any politician,” Crownover said. “People can vote if they want, but my singular vote helps no one, cast or not.”

YSU has shown its support of students voting. Its website gives instructions on who is eligible to vote and when the deadline to register is.

Although voting has turned into a controversial subject, almost every citizen has the right to vote.

There are also students who understand both sides and feel that a student should choose to vote only if they want to. Senior advertising major Zackary Smigel said local elections are important, but students should not be forced to vote.

“We are given rights to vote. Included in those rights are rights not to vote. If anyone doesn’t want to vote, they shouldn’t be forced to,” Smigel said. “In my opinion, it’s worse to vote for someone you don’t care about than to not vote at all.”

Most of the local officials, including the mayor, governor and board of trustees, are elected in general elections. Senior interpersonal communication major Ian Keslar finds voting essential.

“I have voted in every election since 2015 — local, state and federal. While, yes, voting for our congressional reps, senators and presidents is important, those aren’t nearly as important as our local leaders who have a very immediate and personal effect on our daily lives,” Keslar said.

Mayor Jamael “Tito” Brown won elections for a second term. The governor will be elected in 2022.

Early in-person voting and voting by mail began Oct. 5 — 28 days prior to Election Day. Voting ended Nov. 2.

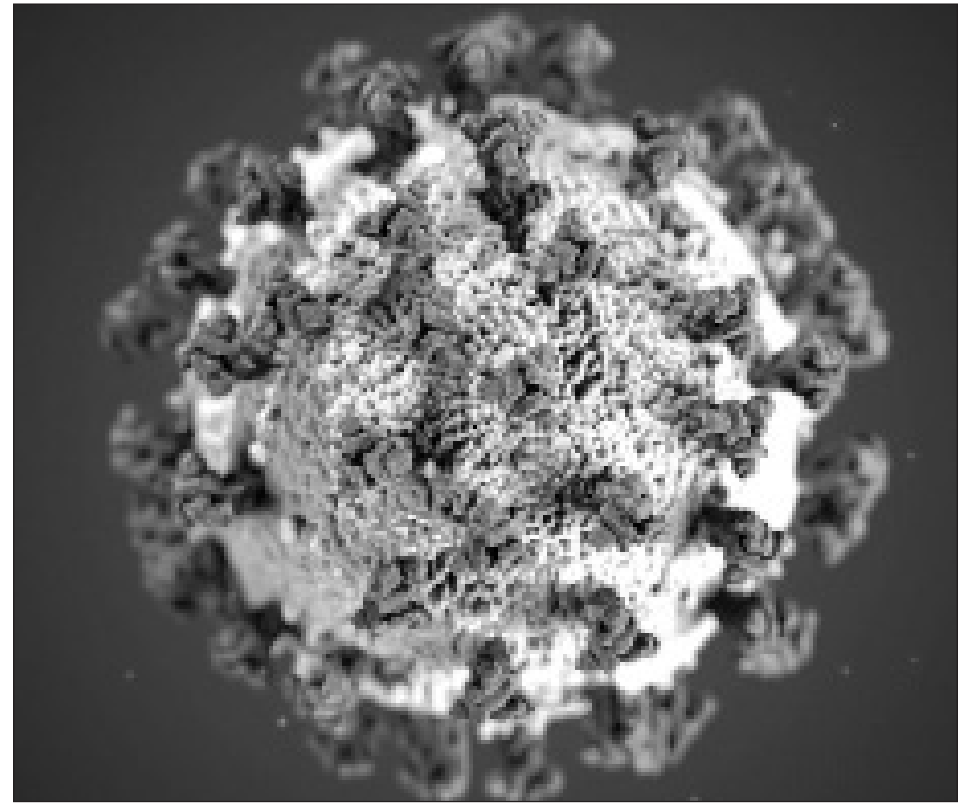


Photo courtesy of Pexels.com

## COVID-19 update

By Abigail Cloutier  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University’s number of COVID-19 cases rose slightly this week compared to last. On Monday, the university reported 26 cases for the week of Oct. 24-30, an increase from the 18 cases reported last week.

Of those, 24 were students living off campus and two were employees, which could include faculty, administration or staff.

This week, 33 people were tested through the university’s asymptomatic voluntary testing program. Of those, none tested positive.

YSU’s COVID-19 dashboard is updated every Monday based on confirmed data from the week

before. Students who have tested positive should report their case through the online form.

YSU reminded students that it’s partnering with the Youngstown City Health District to offer one more vaccination clinic on campus. The university is now offering COVID-19 booster shots to those who are eligible. A booster clinic will take place 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 18 in the Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center. Recipients are asked to bring their vaccine card.

The clinic will take place Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Ohio Room in Kilcawley Center. All students, faculty, staff and their families are eligible for either the one-shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine or the two-shot

Moderna vaccine. Appointments are required at [ysu-covid.com](http://ysu-covid.com)

The university also is holding a clinic today, Nov. 4.

YSU sent out an email stating free surgical face masks and KF94 face masks are available to students. They can be picked up at Maag library, Kilcawley Center room 2075 and any of the university residence halls and apartments.

N95 respirators are also available to employees who qualify. Individuals must complete a health questionnaire at [ysu.edu/request-n95-0](http://ysu.edu/request-n95-0)

Any questions about masks and respirators can be answered by Tim Styranec at [tmstyranec@ysu.edu](mailto:tmstyranec@ysu.edu)

# Laptop Loaner Program provides computers for students

By Mia Albaugh  
The Jambar

Youngstown State University's Penguin Plugin Loaner Program has a large availability of personal devices for students to rent.

Sharyn Zembower, manager of the IT Service Desk, said the Laptop Loaner Program is an inexpensive and beneficial opportunity for students provided by YSU.

"Currently, we still have about 400 laptops available for the Dell 2-in-1 [laptops] and MacBook Pros combined," Zembower said.

According to the YSU website, the program is in place to alleviate the costs of laptops, which can be financially difficult for students to purchase.

For the first two semesters, rentals

through the program are free. After that, students will be charged \$50 per semester for personal device rentals.

In Mahoning County, 87% of households have access to a computer, compared to the 90% of overall Ohio households with access to a computer, according to the Ohio 2020 Census.

Nearly 80% of homes in Mahoning County have access to a broadband internet spectrum, as 82% of homes in Ohio have access.

YSU's Penguin Plugin Loaner Program has options for students without access to the internet as well.

"We do have mobile hot spots through the emergency broadband program with T-Mobile," Zembower said. "If they are Pell [Grant]-eligible students, they can apply to receive a mobile hot spot."

On YSU's campus, students are free

to use Wi-Fi for their personal devices. There are also study spaces with accessible PCs open, but the hours are limited. After hours, students must find other places to go for these resources.

Maag Library provides access to computers, outlets for recharging personal devices, Wi-Fi and a quiet place for students to study. The disadvantage of this location is the library's hours are only from 7:30 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Spaces are available in the student center.

According to the YSU website, Kilcawley Center is open:

- 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday
- 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday
- 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday
- 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays

James Yukech, AVP chief information officer of YSU, said there are plans in place to improve the laptop loaner program, but there are no set dates to implement these changes.

"Next year, we're planning on putting in a kiosk where you can buy Dell or Apple devices at the university discount," Yukech said.

According to Yukech, the kiosk will be in Kilcawley Center near the service desk.

A student would be able to see laptop models available and discount prices. Students can get additional support with device repairs, Yukech said.

"If you buy it from us, and you buy a support package with it, you'll be able to bring it back here. We'll give you a like for like loaner," said Yukech. "You'll be able to use a loaner that whole time."

# JCC's annual Jewish Film Festival returns

By Samantha Smith  
The Jambar

Jewish Community Center of Youngstown has been presenting films since the beginning of October in honor of its annual Jewish Film Festival.

Each film's purpose is to show the audience different depictions of Jewish history and culture. From documentaries to dramas, the festival allows the audience to learn about the culture.

Michael Shepherd, chair of the selection committee, said the annual event has taken place for about 20 years. The screening committee meets during the spring to discuss which films will be presented in the fall.

During the screening process, the committee evaluates different movies for roughly 10 days. After watching multiple films, the committee votes on which films make the cut by following guidance from the

Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and a loose criteria. This includes questions such as, "How relevant is this to a Jewish audience?" and whether it is possible to include a guest speaker for the film.

"We always throw a couple of documentaries in, and that's one of the questions, that if we can come up with a speaker, then it is arranged," Shepherd said. "A few years ago, we showed a film from Albania. There's an Albanian consulate in Cleveland, so we had a consular officer — from their consulate — come to Youngstown and talk to the audience."

Shepherd described the festival as an event for everyone to come together to watch films that show different situations with similar motivations.

"That's what we try to bring to our audiences. Everybody's circumstances worldwide are different, but everybody's dreams are the same," he said. "It's just kind of cool to see how other cultures and other countries

show their view of life on the screen."

In total, the festival has seven films up for showing. The last film, "Broken Mirrors," will be shown Nov. 7 at the JCC in its multi-purpose room.

As described on the JCC website, the film's description says, "Shadowed by a strict, military father who inflicts severe methods of punishment as a form of discipline, 17-year-old Ariella commits a grave error that her father isn't willing to punish her for."

Individual tickets are \$7. The center usually provides free popcorn and water for all audience members.

For more information on the Jewish Community Center and the film festival, visit its website at [jccyoungstown.org](http://jccyoungstown.org)

# Body art discrimination at work

By Mia Albaugh  
The Jambar

Opinions are still mixed as research shows tattoos are becoming more accepted in the workplace.

Previously, people with tattoos were perceived to be less employable than people with no tattoos. This was especially the case with visible tattoos.

Local tattoo shop Artistic Dermagraphics is a family-owned business established in 1974. Artists of the shop have noticed an increasing societal acceptance of those with body art.

Debbie Lenz, owner of the shop, has been tattooing for 40 years. She will be featured in the new magazine *Ladies of Tattooing Worldwide* in 2022. She has noticed an increase in people getting tattooed, especially over the past 10 years, and even an increase since the pandemic.

“A wider range of people are getting tattooed,” Debbie Lenz said. “I’ve tattooed doctors before — I’ve even tattooed Catholic priests.”

Jack Lenz, Debbie Lenz’s son, has been tattooing for 24 years and said the shop sees a variety of clients with

“Jobs are more open to letting their employees have tattoos now.”

— Jack Lenz,  
of Artistic Dermagraphics

diverse occupations.

“It’s gotten a lot better, but every once in a while you have people that are concerned that they might have a

visible tattoo for a job,” Jack Lenz said. “Jobs are more open to letting their employees have tattoos now.”

Research by Michael Fench, Karoline Mortensen and Andrew Timming focused on the question: Do job applicants and employees with tattoos suffer a penalty in the labor market because of their body art?

Fench et al. found no evidence of employment, wage or earning discrimination against people with various types of tattoos. They said in some instances, those with tattoos were more likely to gain employment.

“These results suggest that, contrary to popular opinion as well as research findings with hiring managers and customers,” Fench et al. said. “Having a tattoo does not appear to be associated with disadvantage or discrimination in the labor market.”

However, Chris Henle, Ted Shore and Alyssa Marshall studied and found a range of results. They studied how hiring managers perceive tattooed people and bias.

Results of the study by Henle et al. showed that those with:

- Extreme tattoos were less likely to be hired
- Mild or severe tattoos were offered lower starting salaries than those without body art



Photo by Mia Albaugh / The Jambar

Debbie Lenz, owner of Artistic Dermagraphics, will be featured in an issue of the new magazine *Ladies in Tattooing Worldwide* in 2022.





Gina Armeni is a tattoo artist at Artistic Dermagraphics.

- Extreme tattoos were perceived as less competent and committed than applicants without body art
- Less supervisory experience were less likely to hire applicants with extreme tattoos
- No or few tattoos were less likely to hire applicants with extreme tattoos or extreme piercings
- More piercings were less likely to hire applicants without body art

“I’ve had people — especially in the past — stare, and

you can tell they’re talking about you,” Jack Lenz said.

Roxana Lenz is the daughter of Debbie Lenz and the front-of-house person for Artistic Dermagraphics: she sees clients first and sets them up with an artist. She said she meets about 50 people daily, a combination of new and regular customers.

“Everybody gets tattooed,” Roxana Lenz said. “I try to advise anybody under 18 to not get anything noticeable.”

“Tattooing is definitely becoming more mainstream now. People are way more accepting of it than they used to be — and it’s definitely an art,” Jack Lenz said. “It’s not just something we do, you know, just to do. You have to be experienced and a good artist to be a good tattoo artist.”

## PROFESSORS PERFORM NOTABLE MUSIC



Caroline Oltmanns and Wendy Case rehearsing Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata before the start of the recital.

Photo by Jessica Stamp / The Jambar

# Dynamic duo plays challenging sonata at Butler Institute

By Jessica Stamp  
The Jambar

At 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, The Butler Institute of American Art hosted a faculty chamber music recital where Dana School of Music professors Caroline Oltmanns and Wendy Case performed.

Oltmanns, a pianist, pounded the keys of the piano while Case, a violinist, bowed the violin to Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata.

"It is pretty hard to play ... [but] it's super fun. Great, great music," Oltmanns said.

Since Oltmanns and Case are part of the same department, deciding to team up and perform together was a natural occurrence.

"[We] performed about 20 times during the pan-

demic," Case said.

Oltmanns and Case hope their performance will inspire students to play — and simply have fun with — Beethoven's music.

"Hopefully, it can inspire them to play music and just have lots of joy," Case said. "Beethoven is a very joyful, kind of a humorous composer. He has lots of quirks."

Case talked about the background of Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata and how it got its name.

Beethoven originally wrote the piece for George Bridgetower, an African violinist, but after having a quarrel over drinks, the two had a falling out and Beethoven rededicated the sonata to Rudolph Kreutzer, a well-known French violin teacher in Paris during that time period. But Kreutzer thought the sonata was too

difficult to play so he never played the piece.

Oltmanns said by performing something different she hopes to inspire students.

"The energy of the music — classical music — can be extremely invigorating," Oltmanns said.

Having the best motivation can help when it comes to performing and being onstage.

For Oltmanns, her motivation for performing in front of an audience is Emanuel Ax, a Grammy-winning classical pianist.

"I'll just quote Emanuel Ax who said, 'The best motivator for practice is fear,' so you get up in the morning and think 'I better get to the piano.' It works for me everytime," Oltmanns said.

The Butler offers free music at noon on Wednesdays for a lunchtime concert until Dec. 1



Photo by Emily McCarthy / The Jambar

Prinshep Yadav prepares for Diwali.

# Youngstown celebrates annual Hindu festival of lights

By **Emily McCarthy**  
The Jambar

Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, is being celebrated in Youngstown this week. The festival takes place Nov. 4 as an annual tradition where families and friends get together to celebrate the holiday representing victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

Phantom Fireworks is one of the businesses selling merchandise in support of the holiday.

Amelia Hoffman, advertising manager of Phantom Fireworks, said the company does a lot for celebrators of Diwali. This year, it's selling a few different fountain fireworks specifically for the holiday, including an oil lamp fountain, a flower pot fountain and a spirit in the night fountain.

"We actually do quite a bit for Diwali ... we love promoting the holiday and have sales on the items that are

most popularly used to celebrate," Hoffman said. "Most Phantom locations are open year-round and sell fireworks for all holidays. If you go into any location, we also have special signage and in-store sales that highlight fountains and sparklers that are most popularly used to celebrate the holiday."

Prinshep Yadav, a senior mathematics and actuarial science major, has been a part of the Nepalese Student Association since his freshman year. He said they have been holding events for Diwali since 2018, which he is happy to be a part of.

"In America, we get together at Christmas time, or maybe Thanksgiving time, and for us and many Asian countries, this is the only time where we can meet our family, friends and relatives, so we gather together and enjoy the festival," he said. "Since we are far from our country, we wanted to celebrate over here, as well, and being a transfer student and because of COVID and everything these days, we are not allowed to go back to the

country and going back this time would be like leaving our class."

Yadav said going back to their home countries could take three or four days, so they organize a meet every year on a Sunday sometime during October or November.

"The main goal of the festival is to get together, and not only for international students ... but all the international students and domestic students," he said. "We invite students from Youngstown State University, the University of Akron, Cleveland State and all the other universities as well."

This year, the event will take place from 5-9 p.m. Nov. 14 at Stambaugh Stadium. Registration is available online and is free for YSU faculty and students. To purchase tickets, visit [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)



## THE JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Press Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published weekly in the spring and fall semesters. The Jambar is free for YSU students and faculty.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial board consists of the editor-in-chief, managing editor, news editor, sports editor, arts and entertainment editor and head copy editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar's business manager, multimedia journalists and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Jambar encourages letters to the editor. Submissions are welcome at thejambar@gmail.com. Letters should concern a campus issue, must be typed and must not exceed 400 words. Submissions must include the writer's name and telephone number for verification, along with the writer's city of residence for publication. The Jambar does not withhold the names of guest commentators. Letters are subject to editing for spelling, grammar and clarity. Letters will not be rejected based on the views expressed in them. The editorial board reserves the right to reject commentaries and letters if they are not relevant to our readers, seek free publicity, fail to defend opinion with facts from reliable sources or if the editorial staff has decided that the subject has been sufficiently aired. The editorial board will request a rewrite from the submitted writer based on these requirements. The Jambar will not print letters that are libelous, threatening, obscene or indecent. 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 YSU.

# The Jambar Editorial

The Youngstown State University Board of Trustees recently voted to “sunset” — which is their eloquent way of wording “cut” — up to 26 programs by fall 2022. The board seemed to feel this was the best solution to a decline in enrollment and therefore revenue. We, the students of YSU, the ones whose tuition pays for the university to function, do not agree.

The proposed cuts cover a variety of programs, including: foreign languages, computer information systems, music, medical (during a pandemic), creative writing and far, far too many more. No matter what end of the spectrum you're studying, be it arts or sciences, YSU plans to cut it.

With the loss of classes comes the inevitable cuts of faculty. The faculty who adapted to unprecedented times and returned to campus this semester — although some preferred not to with the lack of preventative measures put in place by the university to limit the spread of COVID-19. Those who guide us, en-

courage us, help shape us into successful professionals — those are the people YSU will render jobless.

One area that didn't see cuts: athletics. According to The Business Journal, athletics actually plans to increase its program next year to the tune of \$885,000, accounting for 10% of each student's tuition. We don't know about you, but we'd rather have a creative writing program and our favorite teachers to still have their jobs.

While academic programs are being cut from a school, while teachers are threatened with losing their position after everything they've gone through in these past couple years, somehow, YSU found even more money to put into its already-heavily-funded athletic program.

This is not to say there is no value to athletics: athletic scholarships provide opportunities for some to attend college who would not have been able to afford receiving a higher education otherwise. Athletics also draws in students who would have not attended YSU otherwise.

Athletics is a powerful marketing tool and it needs to be held to a high standard. If athletics does better, it can bring greater publicity to YSU, but as of now, athletics is not very prominent nationally.

However, the whole point of college is to receive a higher education. Even if the school has a wonderful athletics department and offers a potential student a scholarship, there are plenty of other universities that will also offer scholarships — universities with more programs to choose from. No matter how amazing athletics is, if there isn't a program the potential student is interested in, they might go elsewhere. That is why cutting programs while increasing the athletic budget is not a solution to decreasing enrollment rates.

So as we say goodbye to the creative writing program — a program which many Jambar members have taken part in — we'll be sure to catch the next game.

Until they cut us too,  
The Jambar editorial staff

## The Jambar Column

During March 2020, when the world around us shut down, a new world was released. Or, more specifically, a new virtual world. The latest chapter of Nintendo's Animal Crossing series: New Horizons.

Quickly, the game became a sanctuary for many, myself included. Rather than just sitting bored in my room, I could go explore my own island, which I named Hasselhoff, and befriend all of the fun and unique villagers who call the island their home.

Daily, I was able to harvest fruit, dig up fossils and decorate the place to my liking. But more importantly, I was able to do it with my friends. While we couldn't see each other in person, we were still



Mac Pomeroy

able to hang out everyday. It seemed really great.

I felt a lot less alone because of this. I wasn't the only person who relied so heavily on Animal Crossing: New Horizons for my sanity. In fact, it seemed as though most of my friends were doing the same, posting constant screenshots online of their islands and their avatars together.

The more we pulled away from the real world, the deeper we went into the virtual one. I began to know every corner of my island better than I knew my own house. Suddenly, the enthusiasm died down as quickly as it arrived. No longer did I see people posting cute screenshots. I didn't get any texts from friends asking me to visit their island in the middle of the night. It was as though the game had never existed.

And that's okay! If you are one of the people included in this trend who suddenly got sucked into the appeal of this game — and just as soon left — that is completely fine.

Whether you spent 15 hours on the game or 543 hours, it served its purpose. Too often do we place value on entertainment purely by its pro-

ductivity or the time spent, when that isn't always needed. What matters is that it served you when you needed it, and it's okay to move on to other hobbies or coping strategies.

So, why am I bringing up a game from over a year ago? Well, as of Nov. 5, 2021, a new update for the game will be released. This rather large update has brought back many fans after months away from their islands.

In a way, it's given the game another life. Except, this time won't be about escaping, but instead relaxing. Now, we can just sit back, grab a cup of tea and reconnect with a newly nostalgic hobby.

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## DRIBBLING INTO THE NEW SEASON



Photo by Kyle Wills / The Jambar

Senior Michael Akuchie shoots from the line.

# Penguin preview: Men's basketball

By Kyle Wills  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University men's basketball team is looking to make an impact on the court this year following last year's COVID-19 restricted season.

During the 2020-2021 season, the team had a record of 15-12, 9-11 in the Horizon League. The team had an unbelievable month of February as it would go 7-1 before losing to Oakland University in the quarterfinals.

The team will welcome some new faces this year as seniors Tevin Olson and Collen Gurley and juniors Dwayne Cohill, Owen Long and Chris Shelton have all transferred to YSU. The men will also have some new teammates with four freshmen joining the squad as well.

Last year, Shelton played in and started all 25 games for Hampton University averaging 9.8 points, while shooting 49.2% from the field and 48.6% from 3-point range (67-138). He would lead the NCAA Division I in 3-point percentage.

At Mount Union University, Gurley scored 1,003 points and averaged 14.3 per game in three seasons and would make 183 3-pointers. As a junior, he appeared and started in 12 games for the Raiders averaging 18

points, 4.8 rebounds and 3.9 assists per game. He would score in double figures in 11 of 12 games, including six 20-point performances.

However, these new members will look to make an immediate impact with two big names off YSU's roster from a season ago. The team will look to fill the voids of senior forward Naz Bohannon and senior guard Darius Quisenberry, who both transferred following the end of last season.

A season ago, Bohannon led the Penguins, averaging 16.5 points per game and over 8 rebounds while shooting an impressive 52.6% from the field. Quisenberry would make his presence known in the second half of the season, following an injury plagued first half, averaging almost 15 points a game, 3.1 assists and shooting 35.6% overall.

There will still be familiar faces around for the Penguins as they return three starters from last season's squad. Fifth-year seniors Garrett Covington, Michael Akuchie and sophomore Shemar Rathan-Mayes combined to start 74 games in 2020-21.

Akuchie and Covington have each appeared in 119 games and have scored a combined 1,958 career points. Covington, a three-time Horizon League All-Defensive

Team selection, averaged a career-best 12.5 points per game and connected on 49.8% of his field-goal attempts.

Akuchie, who averaged 9.9 points per game last season, was one of the Horizon League's top rebounders with an average of 8.3 boards per game. Akuchie also set a Horizon League and YSU Division I single-game record with 24 rebounds against Robert Morris a season ago Feb. 6, 2021.

Sophomore Shemar Rathan-Mayes earned Horizon League All-Freshman Team accolades last season after averaging 10.4 points, 2.0 rebounds and 3.5 assists per game.

Sophomore Myles Hunter was also strong, starting 12 contests for YSU last year as well. Other returnees include sophomores Alex Vargo, Will Dunn and Daniel Ogoro. Senior forward Jamir Thomas also will return after missing the 2020-21 campaign due to a knee injury.

The YSU men's basketball team is set to begin its season Nov. 10 at 8:30 p.m. when it travels to Penn State University to do battle with the Nittany Lions. This game can be watched on the Big Ten Network and can be listened to on 570 WKBN AM and the iHeartRadio app.



# Women's basketball excited for upcoming season

By Joseph Frattaroli  
The Jambar

As the Youngstown State University's women's basketball season begins Nov. 9, the team's spirits seem high. Freshman Lexi Wagner said the team has high expectations and wants to be competitive throughout the year.

"We have high expectations this year. We want to win the Horizon [League], obviously," Wagner said. "[We want to] be really competitive and get as far as we can in the tournament."

Wagner said she and the team members look toward themselves when it comes to foreseen roadblocks and improving their play. She is also happy with the intensity of practices and preparedness of the team for this season.

"We're more concerned about ourselves and trying to

play the best we can everyday and trying to get better," Wagner said. "Training has been going really well. I feel like practices have been very intense and very competitive, which makes it a lot of fun and a great environment to play in."

As for strategy, senior center Lilly Ritz hopes to get many offensive rebounds to support the team as well as being advantageous in her positioning.

"My main thing is getting the offensive rebound and putting it back up — it's probably my favorite thing to do," Ritz said. "Then, just getting the defensive stops, steals, getting open and making good post moves as a team."

She spoke about the chemistry of the team and how it will help throughout the season and contribute to more cohesive gameplay.

"Team bonding here is a lot better than anywhere I've ever been — we're all best friends," Ritz said. "I can go to

any of them if I need to, and we hang out every weekend. There's so much chemistry here I think it'll carry well onto the court."

Ritz said a specific competitor the team has to look out for is IUPUI. Youngstown State University lost to IUPUI twice last season. She said a specific player on IUPUI has her attention, as she has won the Horizon League Women's Basketball Player of the Year three times in a row.

"I have heard they have a pretty good post player. Personally, she is just a big competitor," Ritz said. "She's one I'm looking out for, as a team [the challenge is] taking her and that team down, and hopefully winning."

Youngstown State's season will kick off Nov. 9 with its first match against Eastern Michigan University.

## YSU sports shorts

By Jambar Sports Staff

### Men's Tennis

Youngstown State University freshmen tennis players Clement Mainguy and Nathan Favier won four matches to earn the doubles main draw title at the Cleveland State University Viking Invitational. Favier and Mainguy beat Cleveland State's Maxime Mareschal-Hay and Kade Mindry by a score of 6-2 to earn them the championship title.

Junior Laurentiu Mandocescu made it to quarterfinals after winning two matches in singles play. Both Mandocescu and junior Javi Pla won two matches of singles for the team.

This was the final tournament for the Penguins' fall season

### Men's Golf

Youngstown State's men's golf team tied for third Oct. 24 in the Towson Fall Invitational in Grasonville, Maryland.

Youngstown State finished the tournament with a total of 873 to tie for third with Robert Morris University. The team was led by seniors Ken Keller and Kevin Scherr, and each carded a score of 217 to tie for sixth place.

Junior Cole Christman tied for 11th with a score of 219, senior Bryan Kordupel finished with a 220 to tie for 13th, sophomore Cade Kreps played as an individual and tied for 24th with a score of 226 and junior Brain Terlesky finished 43rd with a score of 237.



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FACING THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE SEASON



# Football looks to future despite loss

By Yousof Hamza  
The Jambar

The Youngstown State University football team faltered again this weekend, losing to the No. 10 South Dakota State University Jackrabbits 47-16.

Senior quarterback Joe Craycraft started the game in relief of injured starting freshman quarterback Demeatric Crenshaw. However, Craycraft was injured this game and third-string junior quarterback Mitch Davidson came in during the third quarter.

Davidson played well, going 6-7 passing for 111 yards and two touchdowns. His first pass was for 12 yards to junior Bryce Oliver, and the two connected on the next play for a 35-yard touchdown.

While Craycraft was playing, he went 4-10 passing for 36 yards and an interception.

Youngstown State did not have much success on the ground, with senior tailback Jaleel McLaughlin leading the team with 54 yards on eight attempts. The rest of the team had 22 yards on the ground.

Defensively, the Penguins allowed 553 yards, but it recorded two turnovers.

Youngstown State was unable to convert on these turnovers, which was a point of concern for head coach Doug Phillips.

“We needed to get first downs — you get first downs, first downs turn into drives, drives in the red zone turn into points, touchdown, we got three there early,” Phillips said. “We needed to finish that drive.”

Junior linebacker Griffin Hoak felt the team has been managing the highs and lows of the season well. The management of those has been a key point of Phillips’ coaching strategy.

Youngstown State will play at the University of North Dakota this Saturday, Nov. 6, in Grand Forks, North Dakota. This will be the team’s first time playing there since 1962.

Phillips is excited to play at a venue the team has never visited before.

“Youngstown State has never played in that arena, so I look forward to getting on the road and discovering a new place to play football,” he said. “Try to bring a hard fought Missouri Valley football. You go on the road, it’s going to be a battle and we got to make sure our young men are ready to play Saturday at noon.”

Phillips has also likened North Dakota to Youngstown State in the way they keep competing and fighting in games.

The NCAA announced that teams cannot hold mandatory athletic activities on Election Day. This means that the team has lost a day of practice heading into the North Dakota game, but Oliver said he feels it is a good way to reset.

“We get a day off from the NCAA with Election Day. So, that gives everybody a chance to get their academics straight [and] get their bodies right. The training room is open today, so that gives us a chance to unwind and get away from the football aspect of things,” Oliver said.

Photo by Yousof Hamza / The Jambar

Youngstown State University junior Bryce Oliver jumps up to secure the football.