

## Apartments to open this summer as residential numbers continue to grow

Progress continues on the construction of the Flats at Wick apartment complex on the North Side of campus, marking yet another step in the university's continued efforts to increase student housing on and around campus.

Dominic Marchionda, president of U.S. Campus Suites, said construction

of the 115-bed first phase of the project, located across from the Cafaro House residence hall, is ahead of schedule. The apartments are set to open this summer.

The project is the first privately-owned apartment complex of its kind built exclusively for YSU students.

Marchionda said U.S. Campus Suites

started market research three years ago to assess the housing needs of university and college campuses within a 100-mile radius of the company's Youngstown base.

"We were looking for campuses showing signs of growth, that had a definite need for additional campus housing and were willing to work with an outside developer," Marchionda said.

YSU was a perfect match, with enrollment increasing to more than 14,500 last fall – the highest in 16 years.

The number of students living in the university's five residence halls, University Courtyard Apartments and Buechner Hall hit 1,354 in the fall semester, an all-time high and an increase

of nearly 400 students since fall semester 2000, said Danielle Meyer, director of YSU Housing and Residence Life.

A record 890 students are living in the five university-owned residence halls—Ca-

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## Garden Club Angels celebrates first success

The formula is simple: Person A has an entrepreneurial idea but does not have the money to bring it to market. Person B has some money, experience or contacts and is looking to invest in a new venture.

A + B = a successive business partnership.

The key is in the "plus" sign.

That's where Garden Club Angels of Youngstown comes in.

The club, whose founding sponsors are YSU's School of Graduate Studies and Research and the Youngstown Business Incubator, is a group of entrepreneurs and investors committed to fostering the economic revitalization of the Mahoning Valley by connecting people with ideas to people with money, experience and contacts.

"Our goal is to help build a healthy investor community in the Youngstown area, so that people with good ideas and good products can be matched with individuals who want to put up at-risk money or expertise to help those ideas become productive business ventures," said Patrick Gaughan, co-founder of the Garden Club Angels, business community liaison with the YSU School of Graduate Studies and Research, and an instructor in the

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Dominic Marchionda, president of U.S. Campus Suites, walks through a hallway in the Flats at Wick, a 115-bed apartment complex under construction across from the Cafaro House residence hall on the North Side of the YSU campus.

# Economics prof's article earns top recognition



Yogesh Uppal

For many years, YSU assistant professor of economics Yogesh Uppal has admired Gordon Tullock from afar.

Professor emeritus at the George Mason University School of Law, Tullock is an intellectual

giant in the fields of economics and law. He is the author of more than 20 books and hundreds of articles, founding editor of *Public Choice* journal and was a candidate for the Nobel Prize in economics in 2003.

"He's one of the finest scholars in the field," Uppal said.

Now, Uppal is the recipient of an award bearing Tullock's name.

Uppal's research article titled "The Disadvantaged Incumbents: Estimating Incumbency Effects in Indian State Legislature" was recently awarded the Gordon Tullock Prize by *Public Choice*. The prize honors authors under the age of 40 and is open to graduate students, as well as newcomers in the profession.

"Each year, *Public Choice* receives over 400 new manuscripts from around the globe," said William Shughart, editor-in-chief of *Public Choice* and a professor of economics at the University of Mississippi. "Of those, no more than 20 percent are selected for publication. The Gordon Tullock Prize is then awarded to one of the year's published authors."

"I knew that the Gordon Tullock Prize was awarded to the best article of the year," Uppal said, "but I never considered myself a candidate. This is a great honor."

The article, which appeared in the January 2009 edition of *Public Choice*, focuses on state legislative elections from 1975 to 2003 in India. Uppal, a native of New Delhi, found that, unlike most U.S. and European political races, incumbents are least likely to win elections in India.

"Much research in the United States shows that elected officials rarely lose and, hence, enjoy a substantial electoral advantage over their challengers," Uppal said. "But I grew up seeing that the opposite was true. Nobody ever really studied how that impacted economic policies. My research shows that this phenomenon is highly counterproductive in making economic policies."

Uppal began writing the article while working on his doctoral dissertation at the University of California in Irvine. It was not until after receiving his Ph.D. in 2006, and being hired at YSU later that year, that he completed the research.

"Gordon Tullock always hoped that *Public Choice* would become a place for publishing scholarship addressing problems beyond the boundaries of North America and

Western Europe," Shughart said. "Professor Uppal's piece advances that goal and was the unanimous choice" for the prize.

Uppal received the award on March 13 at the annual meeting of the Public Choice Society in Monterey, Calif. ■

Story by Melissa Sullivan

"... I never considered myself a candidate. This is a great honor."  
- Yogesh Uppal



## And they're off...

Four YSU telecommunications studies students produced live video streaming of the 2010 NCAA Div. II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships in Canton. The crew provided more than 40 hours of live television over the course of the four-day event, March 10 to 13. Here, camera operator Candi Thomas hones in on the swim meet. The broadcast was the culmination of a joint venture started in the fall 2009 with the YSU athletics office. To read the full story, visit eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.

## Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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# Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff" to  
Cynthia Vinarsky at [cevinarsky@ysu.edu](mailto:cevinarsky@ysu.edu).

**Fred Viehe**, associate professor, History, has been notified that his article, "Atavistic Monsters and Hedonistic Culture: A New Definition for American Organized Crime," will be published in the *International Journal of the Humanities*. In addition, he recently presented "The Underworld Never Seemed So Fair: Women as Pirates, G'hals, Mafiosas, and Gangsteristas" at the 8th Hawaii International Conference on Arts and the Humanities in Honolulu.

**Frank X. Li**, assistant professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, presented, "Real-time Urban Bridge Health Monitoring Using a Fixed Wireless Mesh Network," at the 2010 IEEE Radio and Wireless Symposium in New Orleans. The

co-authors are **Anwarul Islam**, associate professor, Civil Engineering, and **Graciela C. Perera**, Computer Science & Information Systems.

**Ronald P. Volpe**, professor, Accounting and Finance, and **Kathleen E. Mumaw**, instructor, Accounting and Finance, published "Financial Illiteracy and the Subprime Mortgage Crisis" in the fall 2009 *Journal of Business and Accounting*. Mumaw presented the paper at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences in Las Vegas, where the paper was recognized with the Best Paper of a Track award.

**Virginia Bendel Draa**, coordinator of Family and Consumer Sciences Education in

Human Ecology, published "Cyberbullying: Challenges and Actions" in the *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*. Co-author was part-time faculty member and graduate student in counseling, **Tara D. Sydney**. Draa and Sydney also collaborated on the presentation, "Cyberbullying: What Family and Consumer Science Professionals Can Do to Help" at the Ohio Association of Family and Consumer Sciences annual conference in Westlake, Ohio. In addition, Draa presented her design "In the Garden," a wedding gown constructed with reused vintage trim and organic cotton, in the juried design exhibition on sustainability in apparel design at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Conference in Knoxville, Tenn. ■



## Ready for some football!

First-year head football coach Eric Wolford takes a close look at his players in action during spring practice in Stambaugh Stadium. "We need to be a lot more physical," Wolford said. "If you don't like contact, if you don't like flying around and getting excited and getting red eyes and panting a little bit...football's not for everybody." The practice schedule culminates with the annual Red-White Spring Game on Saturday, April 10. The season, and the Wolford-era of YSU football, kicks off on Saturday, Sept. 4, as the Penguins travel to State College, Pa., to take on the Penn State Nittany Lions.

## Apartments

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faro, Lyden, Kilcawley, Weller and Wick. That was up from 822 in fall 2008. The residence halls were originally equipped to handle 858 students, but adjustments have been made to accommodate the increased numbers.

YSU's Centennial Master Plan identifies a long-term need for a total of 2,400 to 2,800 student beds on campus.

"Having additional private housing available for our upperclassmen is a great opportunity for both the student and the university," Meyer said. "It is a way for the

students to live close to campus, but have more freedom. They get the same experience of living on their own, but won't have to continue to travel on and off campus as much."

"It's exciting to get to work in my own backyard and bring this type of planning and development to Youngstown and YSU," Marchionda said.

The apartments are equipped with single, double, triple and quad garden-style units along with private bathrooms for each bedroom. The building also in-

cludes two laundry rooms, two computer study areas, a fitness center and full Wi-Fi access. A state-of-the-art security system will be installed restricting access to the building only to residence cardholders, Marchionda said. YSU police will also be patrolling the area, and a trained YSU residence aid will be living on site.

The building is intended for upper-classmen occupancy only.

For more information on the Flats at Wick, visit [www.flatsatwick.com](http://www.flatsatwick.com). ■

*Story by Melissa Sullivan*

## Garden Angels

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Williamson College of Business Administration.

At a news conference in March at YSU, the club announced the completion of its first successful investment: House of Speed, an athletic speed and sports performance training program that – with the help of an investment partner arranged through the club – now has locations throughout the Mahoning and Shenango valleys.

"This kind of partnership is an important piece of the puzzle in creating a robust entrepreneurial economic climate in the region and allows the expertise that exists at YSU and in the community to work together to help regional business ventures and stimulate the creation of wealth," said Peter Kasvinsky, dean of the YSU School of Graduate Studies and Research. "This is the true definition of economic development."

Garden Club Angels, created about a year ago, is comprised of about 45 local individuals and potential investors who meet regularly to hear proposals from various inventors, business people and others who have ideas or products that they are trying to bring to market or to expand. After the presentations, the club helps arrange for interested investors to engage in talks with the presenter.

In the past year, the group has heard about 15 proposals, ranging from a baker who wants to expand his business to a software-maker looking to enter the market.

Steve Halloran, a Youngstown native and YSU graduate who worked for several years for La-Z-Boy, used his own personal funds to purchase a House of Speed franchise in August 2009. With more than 20 franchises in 11 states, House of Speed trains athletes ages 8 to 18, as well as college, adult and professional athletes, to achieve higher levels of speed and agility.

In October 2009, Halloran went before the Garden Club Angels and outlined his need for more equipment to expand to locations in Salem, Niles and New



*Pat Gaughan, left, co-founder of the Garden Club Angels and business community liaison with the YSU School of Graduate Studies and Research, presents a special plate to Steve Halloran, owner of House of Speed Youngstown. Halloran was honored as the Angels' first success story.*

Castle. After the meeting, an investor approached him. With Gaughan acting as an educator, mediator and facilitator, discussions ensued over the next several weeks. Ultimately, a deal was reached that has allowed the expansion, Halloran said.

"Without the Garden Club, it never would have happened," he said.

For more information on the Garden Club Angels, visit [www.gardenclubangels.org](http://www.gardenclubangels.org). ■