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Dana student and professor celebrate the music and mind of Frank Zappa

Ten years ago, ask David Morgan about Frank Zappa, and you may get a shrug of the shoulders.

Then, the associate professor in the Dana School of Music was commissioned by the Tri-C Jazz Fest in Cleveland to transcribe and arrange several of Zappa's pieces for a concert entitled "The Grand Wazoo."

"I hadn't realized how deep and complex his music was until I spent six months trying to write it out note for note from the recordings," Morgan said. "I've since come to the realization that Zappa was one of the important composers and musical thinkers of the 20th century."



YSU graduate student John Anthony, right, and David Morgan, associate professor in the Dana School of Music, lead the new Frank Zappa Ensemble. They are pictured in this photo illustration with Zappa as he appeared on the cover of his "Apostrophe(3)" album.

This semester, Morgan, along with graduate student and fellow Zappa-enthusiast John Anthony, are bringing the appreciation of all things Zappa to students in the Dana School of Music.

The Frank Zappa Ensemble, an 11-piece group of Dana students, will present its first performance of music spanning Zappa's career at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. Selections performed at the concert were transcribed by Morgan and Anthony from Zappa recordings.

Zappa, who died in 1993 at the age of 52, was a composer, singer-songwriter, electric guitarist and film director who produced more than 60 albums of rock, jazz, classical and avant-garde music. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1995.

Anthony, a rock and jazz guitarist whose master's thesis focuses on Zappa, said the purpose of the Dana Frank Zappa Ensemble is to expose more people, especially students, to Zappa's music.

"For the performers, this music requires a high level of technical virtuosity, improvisations and understanding of odd meter," he said. "Not only is putting together ones individual part difficult, but then putting all 11 member's pieces together forms a new challenge in itself."

The ensemble will continue into the spring semester with at least two additional performances on campus, one of them being Anthony's master's recital in which Zappa's entire "Apostrophe(')" album will be performed.

Morgan said the ensemble is part of Dana's efforts to expand its engagement with American popular music based on the interests and talents of the students.

"It is simply untenable for an American music school in the 21st century to continue to ignore the music of our own culture," he said. "I would ultimately like to see us create a Center for American Popular Music at YSU that teaches the history of our music and provides aspiring musicians with real-life skills to participate in the music industry of tomorrow."

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Where art and engineering intersect

The distance between Moser and Bliss is getting smaller.

The Department of Art in Bliss Hall and the Mechanical Engineering Technology program in Moser Hall recently installed a new, two-coil induction furnace in Bliss that they will share to collaborate on various independent and joint projects, including the creation of metal sculptures and machine parts.

The \$150,000 furnace was installed through a \$125,000 donation from Ajax Tocco, an induction equipment manufacturer in Warren. The company specifically designed the furnace for YSU and supplied the equipment and labor for the project. The remaining \$25,000 was funded through the Office of the Provost; the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and the College of Fine and Performing Arts. In addition, Fireline Inc. of Youngstown donated crucibles, and MET students helped to fabricate much of the equipment and assisted with the install.



The two-coil furnace – one coil having a supported crucible for high-temperature steel alloys, the other an unsupported crucible for iron-lacking, or non-ferrous, alloys – was installed this semester. It was tested for the first time this month and will be ready for student use within weeks.

The new equipment will expand the capabilities of both the Art and MET programs. Whereas the old gas-fired furnace melted only non-ferrous alloys in 90 minutes, the new equipment melts both ferrous and non-ferrous alloys in 15 minutes, increasing the number of students who can use it.

Brian Vuksanovich, left, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology, and Greg Moring, professor and chair of Art, in Bliss Hall where a new furnace has been installed as part of the Collaborative Learning Laboratory.

“This is part of our aspiration to ensure our students work with industry-standard equipment,” said Bryan DePoy, dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

STEM Dean Martin Abraham said the project also supports an “interdisciplinary learning environment for our students,” which he says provides them with the cross-field experience that employers look for when hiring.

Art students will use the furnace in the casting process, where metals are melted to liquid and then poured into a mold to take on a new shape, said Greg Moring, professor and chair of Art. The process is used in spatial arts classes to create medium-sized sculptures.

For MET students, the furnace will be used in casting metals to create mechanical parts for various machines. They will also be able to develop different alloys and metal-forming techniques.

What makes the furnace so significant, said Moring, is its technology. The furnace melts aluminum, bronze, cast iron and alloy steels in a much faster and safer manner, which reduces the time students will spend working with hot metals when melting and pouring them.

The furnace emphasizes the concept of resource-sharing across campus and is an outgrowth of the Collaborative Learning Laboratory, or CoLab, a program created four years ago by Moring and Brian Vuksanovich, assistant professor of MET.

“CoLab brings our students together and lets them collaborate to figure out creative ways to manufacture art projects,” said Moring.

For Moring’s students, CoLab is an opportunity to take their projects to the “sellable level” and gain insight into manufacturing and mass production from the MET students. Vuksanovich says CoLab “gets engineering students out of the textbook and gives them a chance to be creative.” He also said that working with art student “clients” gives MET students invaluable practice they will need when working with customers.

One recent project to come out of CoLab involved realizing an art graduate student’s idea to build a human-sized bird’s nest, fit it between three treetops, and allow people to sit in it to take in a bird’s perspective. The nest was displayed as a permanent fixture on the art student’s property this summer with the help of several engineering students.

Vuksanovich and Moring said CoLab not only creates hands-on opportunities for student collaboration, but it also helps two programs from two vastly different colleges share resources, talents and knowledge across the disciplines.

“The furnace becomes a perfect resource to help us accomplish this,” Moring said.

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No more paper

University moves to computerized time cards, leave forms

Paper time cards and vacation and sick leave forms will soon be a part of the past as YSU transitions into a new computer-based system.

“We hope to fully implement a system that will eliminate the burdensome, manual process that we now have in place to file these types of documents,” said Paul Kobulnicky of the Office of Finance and Administration and leader of the Banner Web Time and Web Exception project team.

“This new system is faster, more accurate and will lead to greater efficiencies across campus.”

Over the course of the next year, YSU’s Human Resources and Payroll departments will implement the system that allows for the submission and approval of all time cards, vacation, sick and other leave documents to be done via the campus network or the Internet.

“A successful implementation will require the involvement of all employees, student employees, supervisors and departments,” Kobulnicky said.

As a first step, the university is verifying organizational structures and supervisory relationships throughout the campus. A small pilot program will be launched in the spring of 2012. Kobulnicky said the plan is to first process student employees under the new system starting in the summer session. Classified employees will be brought into the system in fall 2012, followed by all other employee groups.

Kobulnicky said all employees and supervisors will be trained on the new system as it is rolled out to ensure that employees know how to submit data properly and that supervisors know how to review and approve submissions. He said more information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

Other members of the project team are Lisa Reichert of Payroll, Steve Lucivjansky of Human Resources and Rick Marsico, Donna Madasci and Lori Hinebaugh of Computer Services.

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Chancellor designates Center of Excellence

The Williamson College of Business Administration's Center of Excellence in International Business has received the statewide designation as an Ohio Center of Excellence.

Jim Petro, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, made the announcement during a news conference earlier this month in Williamson Hall.

"I commend YSU for reaching beyond the geographical boundaries and logistical limitations to create the Center of Excellence in International Business," Petro said. "Providing students and faculty members with the opportunity to research and participate in global business, and at the same time enhance the regional economy is what makes this center unique."



Jim Petro, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, was on campus this month to designate the Williamson College of Business Administration's Center of Excellence in International Business as an Ohio Center of Excellence. From the left are Betty Jo Licata, WCBA dean; Petro; and three individuals who lead the WCBA Center of Excellence in International Business – Associate Professor of Management Rangamohan Eunni of the WCBA Emerging Markets Initiative; Bruce Keillor, associate professor of marketing and director of the Williamson Center for International Business; and Pat Veisz, director of the Ohio SBDC at YSU.

This is the third Center of Excellence designation for YSU and the 50th Center of Excellence designation awarded by the Board of Regents.

"This designation is a mark of distinction for the Williamson College of Business

Administration and a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the faculty, staff and administration of the college, as well as dozens upon dozens of supporters across the community,” YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson said.

Also speaking at the news conference was WCBA Dean Betty Jo Licata and Sarah Stafford, an MBA student in the college. Several faculty, students, political leaders and others also were in attendance.

The WCBA Center of Excellence in International Business encompasses global learning experiences for students, research in international business, the study of emerging markets, and training and consulting services for businesses. Components of the Center include the Williamson Center for International Business, the Emerging Markets Initiative, and the Ohio Small Business Development Center at YSU.

The Center provides global education and educational opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students, supports and encourages both basic and applied faculty research in the various areas of global business, enhances local and regional economic development through workshops, seminars, consulting, networking, and student internships and projects.

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Faculty and staff awards, presentations, publications

Hans Tritico, assistant professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, was selected as one of 65 of the nation's most innovative young engineering educators to participate in the National Academy of Engineering's third Frontiers of Engineering Education symposium, Nov. 13-16 in Irvine, Calif. This year's symposium focused on teaching leading-edge engineering knowledge, project-based learning, active and self-directed learning, and assessment of student learning and education innovation. All attendees were nominated by fellow engineers or deans and chosen from a highly competitive pool of applicants.

Adam C. Earnhardt, associate professor and basic course director of Communication, had research featured in a story that recently appeared in *Vancouver Magazine* about the collapse of the Canucks in the Stanley Cup Finals last year and the subsequent fan reactions.

Will Greenway, professor, English, had a poem published in *Cooweescoowee*, titled "Rage."

Roman Rudnytsky, professor emeritus, Dana School of Music, played a recital last spring in L'viv, Ukraine, as part of the festival "Virtuozny." He also fulfilled his 17th Australian tour from mid-June through late-September, playing a total of 32 concerts and conducting several master classes for local piano students and instructors. In October, he played a recital and conducted a master class at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and in November, he will play six recitals as the classical pianist on a two-week cruise of the ship *Oriana* of the British P&O Cruises Co., traveling to various cities in Spain, Greece, Turkey, Tunisia and Portugal. In December, he will play six additional recitals for another British P&O cruise.

Rebecca Barnhouse, professor of English, has two novels now out in paperback from Random House: *The Book of the Maidservant* and *The Coming of the Dragon*. The latter has won the Friends of American Writers Award for Juvenile Literature, as well as the Society of Midland Authors Award for Children's Fiction. Additionally, last spring, Barnhouse presented a paper, "Sacrificing History for Story in Historical Fiction for Young Readers," at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Bill Binning, professor emeritus of Political Science, co-authored an essay titled "Ohio District 6 Race" that appears in the book *The Roads to Congress 2010*.

Brad Shellito, associate professor, Geography, presented a paper, "Using Geospatial Technology for Monitoring and Tracking Agricultural Sewage Sludge" at the national AmericaView Fall Technical Conference in Cleveland this October.

Christopher Barzak, assistant professor, English, published several short stories this year, including “Gap Year” in *Teeth*, “Smoke City” in *Asimov’s*, “We Do Not Come In Peace” in *Welcome to Bordertown*, and “The 24 Hour Brother” in *Apex Magazine*. In addition, he published the essay “The Closing Window” in *The New Labor Forum* this spring. Barzak was also nominated for a Nebula Award in the category of Best Novelette for his story “Map of Seventeen,” which was published in *The Beastly Bride* last year.

Fred Viehe, professor, History has had his essay “The G’hals of New York and Other Cities at Work and Play: A Flourishing Feminine Counterculture in Mid-Nineteenth Century Urban America,” accepted for publication by the *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences*. He also attended a conference on the History of the Cold War in Russia in October. Sessions were held at Moscow State University and the History Institute at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow and the State Museum of the Political History of Russia in St. Petersburg.

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Research Recognition Luncheon



Peter Kasvinsky, far left, dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, and Provost Ikram Khawaja, far right, congratulate honorees at the 14th Research Recognition Luncheon Nov. 9 in Kilcawley Center. Ron Chordas, associate provost for University Outreach and executive director of the Public Service Institute, accepted a special award for Exemplary Success in Obtaining External Funding for the Public Service Institute. Darrell Wallace, center, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, received the award for Superior Success in Obtaining External Funding for a faculty member; and Daryl Mincey, professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry, accepted the award for Superior Success in Obtaining External Funding for a department.

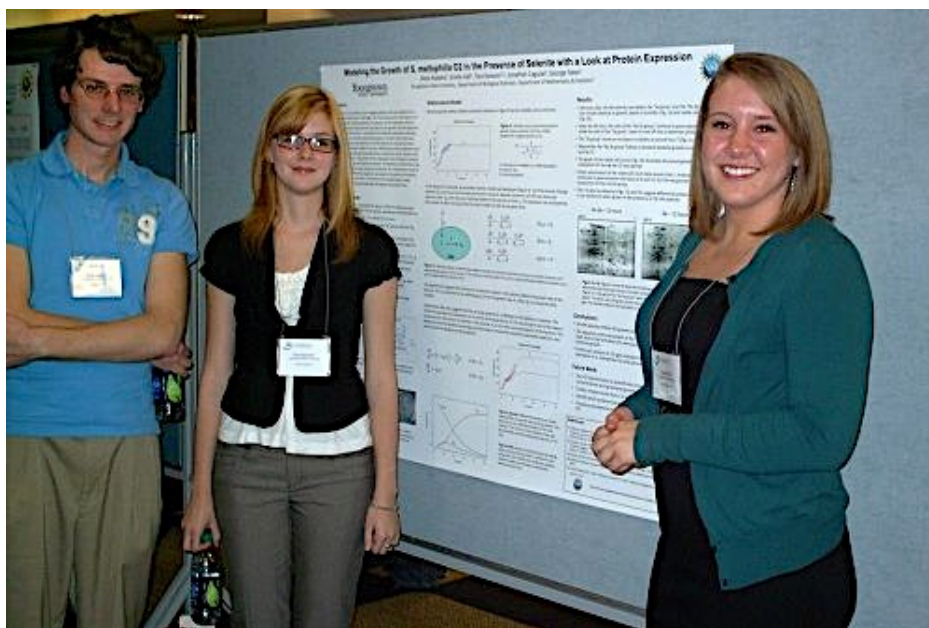
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Student Success Stories

Undergraduates present research at national conference

Seven Youngstown State University students presented research at the Third Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at the Interface of Biology and Mathematics hosted by the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS) at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville this fall.

The students were among more than 100 undergraduates from around the country who gave 50 oral and poster presentations on their research in mathematics and biology. Participants came from 42 institutions in 20 states and Puerto Rico and Canada to present and listen to several invited talks and panel discussions on careers and graduate schools in the field.



YSU students Mark Radetic, Tara Sansom and Emilie Hall presented their poster "Modeling the Growth of *S. maltophilia* O2 in the Presence of Selenite with a Look at Protein Expression" at NIMBioS.

The YSU attendees presented the following four research projects:

- Sepideh Khavari of Howland, mathematics major, gave an oral presentation "Mathematical Modeling and Analysis of Time-to-Peak Response in Biological Systems."
- Mark Radetic of Austintown, majoring in biology; Tara Sansom of Sandy Lake, Pa., a biology major and mathematics minor; and Emilie Hall of East Liverpool, a biology major, presented a poster "Modeling the Growth of *S. maltophilia* O2 in the Presence of Selenite with a Look at Protein Expression."
- Bradely Slabe of Austintown, mathematics major, and Bobby DeVita of McDonald, biology major, presented a poster "Mathematical Modeling and Data Analysis of the Growth and Acetone, Butanol, Ethanol (ABE) Production of *Clostridium beijerinckii*." Kevin McLane of

Girard, mathematics major, participated in the research but was unable to attend the conference.

- Sam Jacobowitz, a biology major from Syosset, N.Y., presented “Tachykinin Modulation of Prefrontal Cortex Neuron Activity.” Jenna Hallapy, a mathematics and biology double major from Columbus, and Joe Copploe, a biology major from McDonald, participated in the research but did not attend the conference but contributed to the research that was presented.

The students are part of a research program in Mathematical Biology and Undergraduate Research at YSU funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

The students, as well as more than 70 others who have excelled in their academic careers at YSU, are featured on the YSU’s Student Success Stories site.

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Scholarship fund for slain police officer hits \$250,000

The YSU scholarship fund in memory of slain Youngstown police officer Michael T. Hartzell has hit the \$250,000 mark.

YSU and Hartzell's parents, Howard and Mary Kay, celebrated the milestone at a luncheon at Nov. 14 in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center. At the luncheon, the latest scholarship recipients were honored.

"I would never have guessed when we started this scholarship fund that we would reach the quarter-million dollar level,"

Howard Hartzell said. "It is a reflection of the support that we have had from so many people and businesses throughout the year. Michael would be proud to see his legacy live on in this way."

Hartzell was shot and killed April 29, 2003, as he sat in his police cruiser in downtown Youngstown. He was 26. His parents created the scholarship in memory of their son. The scholarship is funded through proceeds from an annual charity golf outing.



The latest recipients of the Michael T. Hartzell Scholarship were honored at a luncheon Nov. 14 in Kilcawley Center. From the left are Marc Ruse of Boardman, Derek McLaughlin of Petersburg, YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson, Howard and Mary Kay Hartzell, Olivia Bolender of Boardman and Daniel Farinelli of Poland. Other scholarship recipients not pictured are Faith Wilson of Youngstown, Julia Kirchner of Boardman, Tanner Ewing of Columbiana, Tim Roddy of Struthers, Donna Rendziniak of Mineral Ridge, Taylor Monroe of Warren, Sierra Spotleson of Poland, Ryan Shimko of Girard, Kimberly Bennett of Austintown, and Carly Magnuson of Canfield.

The fund has distributed 55 scholarships worth more than 60,000 to the children of police officers throughout the Mahoning Valley area.

The next golf outing is scheduled, for Sunday July 29, 2012 at Knoll Run Golf Course in Lowellville. For more information on the golf outing, contact Jennifer Gaffney at 330-755-2499 or visit www.mhartzell-charity-golf.org/.

For more information, contact the YSU Foundation at 330-941-3211. Log on to www.ysu.edu, "Give to YSU," to make an online gift.

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YSU now runs on Dunkin’

A full-service Dunkin’ Donuts opened for business in The HUB in Kilcawley Center this month, and lines stretching out the door with caffeine-deprived, donut-hungry students and employees prove the new addition to be a well received one.

Sharing its facility with the newly renovated and expanded Subconnection, Dunkin’ Donuts officially opened Nov. 2 on the YSU campus, featuring freshly made donuts, breakfast sandwiches, specialty drinks and more.

In the mood for fall flavors? Try an Apple Crumb or Pumpkin donut along with a Cinnamon Swirl latte. Stars and Stripes donuts will be on the menu for Veteran’s Day, and Peppermint and Gingerbread swirls are on deck for winter.



Whatever the occasion, the student and full-time staff and baker’s bring a creative touch to YSU’s donuts and a passion to their work.

“We put our heart and soul into making the happen,” said Sheri D’Avello, supervisor of YSU’s Sodexo Campus Services.

Traveling to Braintree, Mass. to be trained at the famous Dunkin’

Donuts University, D’Avello learned the art of making and frosting cake rings, yeast rings and cake sticks for all of Dunkin’s 70+ flavored donuts and the several coffee and espresso recipes that haven’t changed since the opening of the first Dunkin’ Donuts in 1950. D’Avello brought the Dunkin’ secrets back to campus to train employees, who also participated in online iTraining sessions.

She and Amber Powell, retail director of Sodexo, are both excited about opening in The HUB.

“It’s a perfect fit,” said Powell. “We’re making a lot of changes in Kilcawley’s food offerings this year, and a new Dunkin’ Donuts goes right along with what customers are asking for from Sodexo Campus Services.”

Dunkin’ Donuts joins other Kilcawley additions like Denny’s Fresh Express and Jump Asian Express this semester. Powell says it’s an opening that’s here to stay in The HUB.

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Hoops!

YSU's men's basketball team, led by junior forward Damian Eargle, right, opens the 2011-12 home schedule against Notre Dame (Ohio) 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in Beeghly Center.

The squad also plays at home against UC Riverside at 7:05 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18.

Eargle was the Penguins' leading scorer last year and led the Horizon League in blocked shots.

The women's basketball team, led by Horizon League Preseason Player of the Year Brandi Brown, opens its home schedule 7:05 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, against American in Beeghly Center.

For more information, visit www.vsusports.com.



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Reading of the Names



Members of the Marine Corps League and others listen during the Reading of the Names ceremony at Veterans Plaza on the YSU campus on Nov. 10. The annual ceremony recognizes YSU students, faculty and staff who died while on active military duty. Their names are read at the event. To view a video of the ceremony, visit the YSU homepage at www.ysu.edu.

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Cuban diplomat visits campus to discuss relations with U.S.

Jorge Alberto Bolanos Suarez, a member of the Cuban Foreign Ministry since 1963, lectures on “Current U.S. – Cuba Relations: A Perspective from Cuba,” at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in Board of Trustees Meeting Room in Tod Hall on the campus of Youngstown State University.

The lecture is sponsored by YSU’s Global Education Program, Visiting Diplomat Series and the Dr. James Dale Ethics Center.



Jorge Alberto Bolanos Suarez

Bolaños Suarez has a long and distinguished diplomatic career, having served as Cuban ambassador to Poland, Czechoslovakia, United Kingdom, Brazil and Mexico, and since 2007 as Chief of the Cuban Interests Section, Embassy of Switzerland, in the United States. He is a political science and international law graduate of the University of Havana and did postgraduate studies in foreign relations at the University of London.

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Fraud, cash flow topics of Entrepreneurship Week events

YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration is sponsoring the following events in recognition of Global Entrepreneurship Week. All events are in Williamson Hall:

Thursday, Nov. 17, 9 to 11:00 a.m. Room 3423, Protecting Your Company's Assets From Fraud, presented by Timothy S. Hefty, CPA, CFE, CFF, DABFA. Go beyond the usual discussion about internal controls and separation of duties. In this program we will discuss the characteristics of an individual that is likely to commit fraud, what a company that is vulnerable to fraud looks like and how frauds are discovered. We cover the top six actions a business owner can take to protect their company from employee theft and the top five myths about fraud prevention that, if believed, can result in thousands of dollars lost to employee theft. **Registration is required.**

Thursday, Nov. 17, 1 to 3 p.m. Room 3423, The Fundamentals of Cash Flow – Raising, Tracking and Keeping Your Company's Cash, presented by Timothy S. Hefty, CPA, CFE, CFF, DABFA. During this workshop, we will discuss how to raise cash (capital) for your company, the best practices for tracking your company's cash flow and ways business owners can reduce their costs in order to keep more cash in their accounts. **Registration is required.**

Registration Fee for both seminars on Thursday, Nov. 17 is \$25 per person. To register contact Rosie Sulik at 330-941-2140 or rsulik@ysu.edu.