



RAM CLINICS PROVIDE FREE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

A Youngstown State University dental hygiene student performs a teeth cleaning on a patient attending the Remote Area Medical health care clinic. Photo by **Heather Newsome/The Jambar**

AMANDA JOERNDT

Teeth cleanings and extractions, audiology screenings, eye exams and on-site optical lens creation were only a small portion of the services offered at the Remote Area Medical, also known as RAM, health care clinics at the Covelli Centre Sept. 21 and Sept. 22.

RAM, a nonprofit with a mission “to prevent pain and alleviate suffering by providing free quality healthcare to those in need,” travels across the United States to service residents living in “health-deserted” regions.

Since its establishment in 1985, RAM made its first stop in Youngstown to service residents with various on-site medical, dental, vision and hearing resources.

Over 45,000 patients were treated in 2018 with a total value of \$15,386,013 in free care provided.

Jeff Eastman, chief executive officer for RAM, said the organization was made aware of the health care needs in Youngstown by a group of concerned residents at a clinic held in Ashtabula, Ohio.

“It’s really working when those great leaders in the community come together just like here in Youngstown saying, ‘We got a passion and a team. We need somebody to bring the

equipment,’ and that’s what we do,” Eastman said. “We bring the infrastructure so those great volunteers come, show up and do good work.”

Youngstown Mayor Jamael Tito Brown met the RAM team and greeted the residents receiving free health care.

Brown said having RAM make a stop in the city of Youngstown gives residents an opportunity to take care of any personal health care needs, regardless of financial struggles.

“When the people are healthy, the community will thrive as well,” Brown said. “Finding out where individuals are on their health chart is good, but if they have health concerns or issues that need to be taken care of, this is an opportunity for them to have those addressed right here.”

According to Brown, WRTA offered free bus transportation to ensure residents in the area were able to use the health care resources.

“I think the volunteers and those who have been organizing this were thinking of what’s the barriers for individuals to come, and if I can’t get transportation to it, I can’t go,” Brown said. “So we’ve removed that barrier, and they can have access to this health clinic.”

Kasey Hood, a senior dental hygiene major, volunteered at RAM on Sept. 21 to represent Youngstown State University’s

dental hygiene clinic.

“A lot of people can’t afford dental insurance, so they don’t even have a dentist that they see regularly,” Hood said. “Stuff like this allows people to just come in for no charge, and they don’t even ask background information. They get the procedures that they need done.”

Hood said being able to volunteer and work on patients outside of the classroom helps her prepare for future patient scenarios.

Jesse Ruiz, a Girard resident, said he initially planned on getting a new pair of glasses but walked out with glasses and a teeth cleaning from the dental department, taking advantage of the services offered.

“I think everyone here gave me better medical treatment and service than I’ve ever had to pay for,” Ruiz said. “The people that are working here today are working here because they love what they do and want to help people out, and that’s their only agenda.”

Ruiz hopes that RAM will bring clinics back to Youngstown each year.

“I’m really hoping they can stop here every year if they’re able to find volunteers to do so,” Ruiz said.

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YSU LACKING LGBTQ+ RESOURCES

YSUnity has not registered its group with the official YSU student organization portal as of the fall 2019 semester. Photo courtesy of **Jambar Archive**

**RACHEL GOBEP &
JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR
BRANDON BROWN**

YSUnity, Youngstown State University's LGBTQ+ student organization, is absent on campus this semester, leaving a void in LGBTQ+ resources across campus.

The SOGIE, which stands for "sexual orientation, gender identity and expression," organization has not registered its group with the official YSU student organization portal as of the fall 2019 semester.

Former YSUnity President Carissa Brennan said she attributes the downfall of the organization to a lack of student interest and willingness of student or faculty advisers to step forward to keep the group running.

Brennan also said it's possible that some younger LGBTQ+ students don't realize the importance the group has on campus for diverse students.

Paige Beaver, a junior biology pre-veterinary track major, agreed with Brennan and said there is a lack of interest in the group.

According to Beaver, there is a struggle to keep officers that are dedicated to the group.

"The group was left in my hands, and running an organization by yourself is basically impossible. We struggled last semester because students did not come consistently," Beaver said.

She said this caused some chaos when they did not have enough people to help with large events like the drag show.

"We started out strong last fall and ended in the spring with very few members," Beaver said.

Eddie Howard, vice president for student affairs at YSU, said

in his experience, student interest in organizations varies from year to year, but YSUnity has a strong history on campus.

Howard said the university has established a location in Kilcawley Center for a Women and Gender Resource Center. YSU is also in the process of hiring an assistant director for diverse student programs.

"Our goal is to kind of restart the clock with a person in that role this year that can really begin to help us kind of gain some momentum in that area," Howard said. "We have a plan, we just need to get a person in place to implement that plan."

Additionally, Carol Lynnett Bennett, assistant dean and director of diversity and inclusion at Truman State University in Missouri, was named assistant provost for diversity and inclusion at YSU. She will begin her new role at the university on Oct. 16.

University administrators will also be conducting Safe Zone training within the next month. Safe Zone training gives people the opportunity to learn about LGBTQ+ identities, gender and sexuality and examine prejudice, assumptions and privilege.

Ann Jaronski, director of Student Counseling Services at YSU, said LGBTQ+ people are statistically more likely to experience mental health issues including depression, anxiety and suicide.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, LGBTQ+ people are more than twice as likely as heterosexual adults to experience a mental health condition.

Jaronski said the lack of a specific organization on campus for LGBTQ+ issues raises concerns for the mental health of those students, but she doesn't anticipate students will visit counseling services because the group doesn't exist.

According to YSU Student Counseling Services, between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, the office saw 359 students. Of

those students, 66.6% were women, 29% were men and 1.6% were transgender.

Additionally, students identified their sexual orientation as the following: 3.9% lesbian, 1.6% gay, 14.3% bisexual, 2.3% questioning and 0.2% in the category of other.

Those who visited the student counseling office are a microcosm of the total LGBTQ+ population on campus, and Jaronski said diverse groups are important in a campus atmosphere.

"Without that group, it leaves a void on campus," Jaronski said. "One of the pieces of having an identified group for any minority or specific population absolutely gives people a sense of, 'Those are my people. This is where I belong.'"

Beaver said YSUnity was the first student organization she found at the university.

"It truly has made me feel at home ... This group is not only important to me but anyone on campus who is an ally or part of the LGBTQIA+ community," she said.

Beaver will be hosting a YSUnity information table at Kilcawley Center on Oct. 3 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. She said her goal is to ensure the organization comes back strong in the spring semester.

"I will have lots of pride flags and bracelets to give out," she said. "I will also have printouts of our open officer positions and will be taking information from interested students to keep in contact."

Beaver said if students are interested in being a member, they can sign up for the YSUnity emailing list.

"I am hoping this will spark up enough interest to get things rolling again," she said.

Beaver can be contacted at pmb Beaver@student.ysu.edu.



WICK PARK RALLY KICKS OFF NINE-DAY CLIMATE STRIKE ACTION

The Youngstown State University community gathered by the rock in front of Kilcawley Center to protest climate change. Photo by **Abigail Cloutier/The Jambar**

ABIGAIL CLOUTIER

Over 50 Youngstown community members and students joined together holding handmade cardboard signs protesting climate change at the climate strike rally in Wick Park on Friday, Sept. 20.

The rally was one of the first events in the nine-day “Big Climate Action Week,” including a litter cleanup on Wednesday, Sept. 25, organized by the Sunrise Movement of Youngstown.

Cries of unity filled the park, and cars passing on Fifth Avenue honked in solidarity as Cody Clark, a junior at Ursuline High School, gave a speech on the climate crisis.

“We need climate justice, and we won’t settle for anything less,” Clark said, shouting into a megaphone in front of the crowd.

Concerned citizens joined Clark in the movement and voiced their concerns to encourage others to vote, rally and help the cause.

Clark said the reason he is involved in climate activism is that it holds a personal meaning, inspiring him to make a difference in the community.

“The main reason I started getting involved in climate action was my little brother Carter,” said Clark. “He’s three, and in 11 years — the time climate scientists have given us to reverse the most catastrophic events of global warming — he’ll be 14, and he won’t be old enough to vote or make decisions.”

According to Clark, his passion for climate activism stemmed from a number of motivating activists.

“Greta Thunberg started my journey into leading school strikes,” said Clark. “But I was really inspired by the activists from the organization This is Zero Hour and specifically young activists and women of color who were leading this fight yet not getting the credit they deserve.”

Clark attended a summit held by Future Coalition, a nonprofit that networks youth-led organizations seeking to create societal change, where he met other youth activists and was inspired to bring change back to his hometown.

“There are a lot of goals that I have ... I want to travel, I want to advocate, but this was put on hold for the climate crisis,” Clark said. “I wanted to feel like I was doing enough so I could feel safe dreaming past the 11-year mark.”

The rally was followed by a more intimate climate protest

at the rock near Kilcawley Center on Youngstown State University’s campus.

Clark collaborated with Colleen McLean, associate geology professor at YSU, to stage a walk out of her Introduction to Environmental Science class.

“I have this amazing group of students, a class of 180 students, and they are so enthusiastic and so into learning about these things that I thought we should participate,” said McLean.

Students painted a climate temperature scale that illustrates the warming of the earth while Clark led the crowd in chants.

Annika McCabe, a senior at the Mahoning County Career and Technical Center, said she walked out of school to attend the rally.

“This speech was really powerful and incredible to hear,” said McCabe. “I called in to [MCCTC] and told them what I was doing, and I don’t know how they’ll react, but we will see.”

Many students held rallies across the country on Sept. 20 as protests partially inspired by Greta Thunberg were held in major cities.



RECLAIMING OUR IDENTITY, REBUILDING A FUTURE THROUGH TRI-CITY OBSERVANCE

Members of the Youngstown area gathered on Sept. 19 for a tri-city celebration to commemorate the region 42 years after Black Monday. Photo by **Kelcey Norris/The Jambar**

KELCEY NORRIS

Forty-two years after Black Monday, members of the Youngstown area gathered on Sept. 19 to reflect on history and discuss a hopeful future.

“Reclaiming Our Identity” was as a tri-city celebration commemorating the region where the Youngstown, Campbell and Struthers limits meet on Poland Avenue.

William Lawson, executive director of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, explained the significance of Sept. 19, 1977, known as Black Monday, the day the smoke stopped puffing from the steel mills and many workers found themselves jobless.

Derrick McDowell, organizer and announcer for the event, gathered the community on the grounds of the Campbell Works of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, a testament to the former booming steel industry.

McDowell said his vision for the event was to show others that the future of the area is in good hands with an even greater history behind it.

“The reason we gathered today is not just to commemorate the legacy of the steel mills. It’s not just to honor the brave mill workers who gave it their all,” he said. “It behooves us to understand that the great work is yet to be done.”

McDowell said the speakers that shared testimonies gave insight on how they hope to shape the futures of Youngstown,

Campbell and Struthers.

“We’ve reached a space in 2019 where we’ve got to deal with the community as it is now and the community we want to see,” he said. “We do not have the time nor the luxury to cry over our spilled milk anymore.”

Robert Gelonese, Struthers Middle School principal, discussed the importance of teaching members of the next generation about what came before them.

“When Black Monday hit, I was 15 years old, and I asked myself, ‘Where are these people going to go?’” Gelonese said. “In testimony to the people in this area, they stayed. They dug their heels in and said, ‘We’re going to rise from these ashes.’”

He said many of the families directly impacted by Black Monday are still in the area.

“We’re trying to create critical thinkers and problem solvers,” he said. “We’re going after not only their minds, but also their hearts.”

Joseph Meranto, superintendent of the Youngstown City School District, said Youngstown provides many educational and career opportunities for the next generation.

“There are jobs that require different skills ... So, we need to prepare our students for the jobs of the future we don’t even know are here yet,” he said. “[Our students] all have different skills, different training and different talents and abilities, so we

need to use those for the hope of the future.”

Meranto said he encourages his students to learn about the past to have a different future; many students have grandparents who lost their jobs on Black Monday.

“If you don’t know the history of Youngstown and the whole region, you can’t be successful,” Meranto said. “We need to know from where we came to see where we’re at and to see where we’re going.”

Campbell Mayor Nick Phillips stood facing the audience and made a speech about the steel industry on behalf of the Campbell region.

“My grandfathers worked there, and I would lay in bed at night listening to the trains ... I would see the smokestacks and the flames roar,” Phillips said. “I would drive down Wilson Avenue and see this amazing structure that took care of over 5,000 workers. It was a city within a city.”

McDowell provided a closing statement to the audience about the identity of Youngstown.

“When you allow others to tell your story, quite honestly, they don’t tell it well and they don’t tell it right,” McDowell said. “This is a challenge for us all ... Let us write not just a counternarrative because that puts us in a defensive position — we need to go on the offensive.”



YSU PLANETARIUM SHOWCASES NEW AND RETURNING FAVORITES

Youngstown State University's Planetarium has free, public programs that run from September 2019 through May 2020. Photo by **Tina Kalenits/Jambar Contributor**

TINA KALENITS JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

With a record number of 20,000 visitors last year, the Ward Beecher Planetarium at Youngstown State University is launching its programs for the fall and spring semesters.

Patrick Durrell, professor of physics and astronomy and director of Ward Beecher Planetarium, said the staff is always trying to improve the experience at the planetarium.

"We had the record numbers last year, and they improved on the year before that, and it just shows a great interest in the planetarium, and it makes us want to strive harder to present new material," he said.

Durrell said the planetarium staff aspires to shake things up.

"We don't want to keep presenting the same old show. We don't want to keep showing the same old thing," Durrell said. "Astronomy is such a rapidly changing field. Every year there's always new material we want to add because we have a new video system that allows us to display some of the discoveries going on in astronomy."

Tiffany Stone Wolbrecht, the planetarium lecturer, said visitors

can expect the return of many fan favorites, such as "Wizards Weekend," "Rock the Dome," "Undiscovered Worlds" and "One World, One Sky."

The public programs run from September 2019 through May 2020.

The planetarium has many new shows this year, including "One Day on Mars," "The Sun, Our Living Star" and "Big Astronomy," which will premiere in the spring semester of 2020.

Opening weekend was Sept. 13 and 14 and included the local band MoonStation Burning. This is the first year the planetarium has had a live band.

Wolbrecht said there has been a resurgence of interest in astronomy.

"Two years ago with the solar eclipse spanning our entire country and lots of exciting news in space travel that is interesting to the public, and your local planetarium is a good place to learn the latest information in astronomy," she said.

Durrell said he is always looking to spread new information in science and share why those discoveries are essential to his students, colleagues and the community.

"I love talking to people about it. People who just want to learn about what's going on in the universe," Durrell said. "Every year we want to keep adding to that, what new shows are we doing, what's the new topics and ideas to explore the universe."

"The Lecture Series" will also make its return with live presentations from astronomers on Nov. 15 and March 20.

Durrell started the series four years ago to invite astronomers from outside the university.

He said visitors can see a lecture in the spring on exoplanets, which are planets that orbit other stars.

Curt Spivey, the planetarium engineer, said the staff works hard to provide entertainment and education.

"Our goal as a resource to the Mahoning Valley is to provide high-quality content, so you cannot only be entertained but learn something about space and astronomy," Spivey said. "With the system we have, we can go outside those topics too. We have shows on evolution and climate change."

The Ward Beecher Planetarium shows are free and open to the public

NEW CONVERGENT CHURCH OFFERS MODERN TWIST ON RELIGION

LESLIE HUFF JAMBAR CONTRIBUTOR

A new wave of praise and worship has settled on the ground level of St. John's Episcopal Church, which is located in the heart of Youngstown State University.

Founded by YSU alumni the Rev. Jon Paul Robles and his wife Diana, The Sacred Commons is a new convergent church that practices the art of comfortability, unity and equality for all Christian denominations and faiths.

The church opened in January 2019 with the concept of including all denominations across the wide range of Christian practices. Jon Paul Robles' interest in convergence Christianity piqued after attending a conference with people of different religions and backgrounds.

"Five years ago, I went to [a meeting] in Oklahoma, and for the first time in my life I saw Mennonites, Catholics, Anglicans, Episcopalians [and] Pentecostals gathered together," he said.

Robles said the division between churches because of religion has produced denominationalism, which is the exact opposite of The Sacred Commons and has become a vital element in its practice.

"Churches [have] become so divided," he said.

The goal of the church, which is also referred to as "the commons," is to place emphasis on inclusivity for all backgrounds.

"We share each other in common. The love for the other no matter who you are. White, brown, black, gay, straight — we don't [need] these qualifiers to love you and to be your neighbor. Neighborly love comes first," Robles said.

Unlike the traditional Sunday church services, The Sacred Commons starts its service on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

For some regular worshippers like Hubbard resident Nelson Crain, the time is beneficial to their busy schedules.

"[Saturday service] allows you to do whatever you want to do during the weekend. You can still go out and have fun on Friday. You can have fun on Saturday. On Sundays, a lot of people have plans and can't make church happen because of their weekend plans

already. Church on Saturday feels right and fits into scheduling," he said.

Fellow church member Stephanie Crain said the community of the church generates a positive and encouraging atmosphere.

"There is just so much love and you can feel it when you are here," she said.

In addition to the offerings displayed at The Sacred Commons, the space allows for the construction of greater intrapersonal qualities.

"Not only are you able to be yourself here, you're challenged to be a better version of yourself," Nelson Crain said.

Former YSU student and member of The Sacred Commons Shayna Ash said she encourages students to attend the service.

"Young people [have] a hunger for something new when it comes to church," Ash said.

The Sacred Commons is located at 323 Wick Ave. in Youngstown. To learn more about the church, visit thesacredcommons.com



Jacob Labendz, Veronica Dahlberg and Martha Pallante answer questions during the panel “Welcoming in NE Ohio: Past, Present, Future.” Photo by **Brianna Gleghorn/The Jambar**

THRIVE MAHONING VALLEY DISCUSSES THE REGION’S SIGNIFICANT TRANSFORMATION

BRIANNA GLEGHORN

“Welcoming in NE Ohio: Past, Present, Future” was the highlighted topic of discussion at a panel held on Sept. 18 at Youngstown State University, bringing light to welcoming immigrants to the community.

Thrive Mahoning Valley, a local nonprofit organization that works to create a well-rounded community, held the panel as part of a nationwide celebration called Welcoming Week, “bringing together immigrants and longtime residents to build community.”

Panelists included Martha Pallante, Veronica Dahlberg and Jacob Labendz discussing the past, present and future of immigration in the United States with the student body and community at YSU.

Pallante, the interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at YSU, presented the history of welcoming immigrants in Northeast Ohio, the Mahoning Valley and the Youngstown area during the panel.

“The Mahoning Valley, the Youngstown area in particular, has always been a place of transit,” Pallante said.

She said the area had nearly 1,000 residents by 1840, and after undergoing changes and a surge of immigrants that were mainly Irish and German, the population rose to about 15,500 people by 1887.

“One of the things that makes the Youngstown area unique actually is [Youngstown’s] sort of single focused employment in steel,” Pallante said.

Dahlberg, founding executive director of HOLA Ohio, spoke on the current standing of immigration in America.

HOLA Ohio, a Latinx organization based in Northeast Ohio, works to empower the Latinx community by creating opportunities through education, outreach, leadership development and economic advancement.

During the panel, Dahlberg set the scene for the audience, describing the Mexico and U.S. border atmosphere, seeing the graves of those who have tried to cross the border on foot and died as a result of heat and rough terrain.

“When you think about our country being a beacon of hope, the Statue of Liberty and all of these values that we supposedly embrace here, the reality is different,” she said.

Dahlberg talked about the raid of Corso’s Flower and Garden Center in Sandusky and Castalia, Ohio, where 114 workers were arrested for illegally settling in the U.S.

“Their whole lives revolved around their work ... They raised their families,” she said. “They were undocumented but only because they didn’t have any way to become legal. These are farmers harvesting flowers who somehow were seen as a priority and something that had to be eradicated.”

The panel was sponsored by YSU’s Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies, marking the first year the Mahoning Valley and YSU has taken part in Welcoming Week traditions.

Jacob Labendz, assistant professor of Judaic and Holocaust studies, focused on the future of not only Northeast Ohio but the nation as a whole.

“One can master the past,” Labendz said. “But you are always

wrong when talking about the future.”

In Labendz’s opinion, the United States should constantly be transforming, especially “if the politics and structures of the past 30 years are no longer working.”

“If I were to come back in 100 years, I will not understand America, and that’s a good thing,” Labendz said. “Because it means we’re responding to the challenges that we face.”

Nicole Pettitt, assistant professor in the English department, organized the event for the YSU community to take part in.

According to Pettitt, the panel focused on understanding the past, knowing the present and understanding what’s at risk for the future of immigration in the Youngstown area.

“As we receive more people into our communities, and we are starting to see more people in the Mahoning Valley, it behooves us to be more welcoming,” Pettitt said.

Rebecca Banks, a YSU alumna, described the panel as “very informative and speculative.”

According to Banks, the panel allowed her to reflect on her grandfather’s past, who immigrated to Youngstown from Mexico to work in the steel mills.

“We’re still the beacon of hope to people, and I had the privilege of growing up [in Youngstown], but I wouldn’t be here if my grandfather didn’t make that trip,” Banks said.

Banks said hearing the stories of people who immigrated to the United States helps the community be more welcoming and makes her feel connected to her grandfather.

“We’re all one country,” she said.



BLAKE SHELTON ENDS Y LIVE WITH YOUNGSTOWN ROOTS

Blake Shelton gets the crowd on its feet with his opening hit songs at the Y Live performance Sept. 21. Photo by **Shawn Williams/The Jambar**

FRANCES CLAUSE

“I came here for two reasons — to drink and play country music. Let’s get this started,” Blake Shelton said to a sold-out crowd of more than 20,000 people at Stambaugh Stadium Saturday night.

“Neon Lights,” one of Shelton’s hit singles, had the cowboy hat, flannel shirt and boot-wearing audience on its feet right away.

Although he’s not currently on tour, Shelton made an exception to headline this year’s Y Live concert with Tyler Farr and Justin Moore as the opening acts.

In its third year, JAC Live, the organizer of the event, decided to continue with the country theme, which proved to make another successful sellout.

“We have always looked to produce a show that will be as widely popular as possible,” Phoebe Breckenridge, marketing and sales assistant and personal seat coordinator of JAC Live, said.

“We look for an artist who is widely loved by our community and who we think has a style of music that fits the atmosphere

of a large outdoor concert,” she added.

Breckenridge said the Youngstown community has continued to show tremendous support toward artists like Shelton, so she knew he would be welcomed by the crowd at this show.

“[An] entertaining collection of music is just as important as the personality and style of the artist,” she said.

And with Shelton’s entertaining collection of more than 25 chart-topping country hits, the concert’s set list had the crowd energized all night.

What some people may not know is that a valley native and Dana School of Music graduate co-wrote one of Shelton’s first hit songs, “Austin,” which was released in April 2001.

Kirsti Manna, songwriter, keynote performer and educator, said she is a strong believer in the idea that people can contribute their musical talent wherever they are.

“Creativity really builds passion in people. When people are being creative in a town, it can uplift other people around them,” she said. “There’s a lot of outlets in Youngstown where you can perpetuate what you want to do with your craft.”

Her craft and one idea paid off when writing “Austin”

introduced Shelton to country radio and the world.

“I heard the idea [for the song] on someone’s answering machine: ‘If this is Austin, I still love you.’ That’s what was left on their answering machine for their girlfriend who had moved to Austin,” Manna said.

Manna brought the idea to David Kent, an Akron native, and they co-wrote what would be a multi-week No. 1 smash on the U.S. Billboard Hot Country Songs chart.

The message on the answering machine and the broken-up couple playing “phone tag” even resonated with pop lovers, as it peaked at No. 18 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart.

“Knowing that David and I wrote a song that launched Blake’s career — it was what broke him to country radio — that is a real thrill,” she said.

Although Manna could not be at Y Live to watch Shelton sing “Austin,” she said it was a special moment when people she knew attending the concert sent her videos of the performance.

“It’s always an honor when an artist plays your song,” she said. “I’m so glad Blake got to stop through Youngstown and that people are passionate about the roots of ‘Austin.’”



B&O STATION HOSTS BLUES, BREWS & BBQ FESTIVAL FOR A CLOSE TO HOME CAUSE

Daddy Dick's BBQ served up award-winning ribs, chicken, bratwursts and corn at the B&O Station. Photo by **Cailey Barnhart/The Jambar**

CAILEY BARNHART

The B&O Station and the Boxcar Lounge, located on Mahoning Avenue, held their first Blues, Brews & BBQ Music Festival on Sunday with proceeds going toward Robert Arroyo's medical costs.

Robert Arroyo was the owner of the B&O Station for over 20 years. He was diagnosed with myelofibrosis, a rare form of leukemia, four years ago.

Now run by his son and daughter-in-law, the B&O Station hosted the festival to raise money for his medical bills.

The event featured a craft sale from Artists of the Rust Belt, Daddy Dick's BBQ and Penguin City Beer.

Ten local music acts also performed on two stages throughout the day, including The Labra Brothers, Triple Threat, Hoss & The Juggernauts and more.

Catherine Fetter, manager of the B&O Station and Arroyo's daughter-in-law, explained why the event was created.

"Robert Arroyo has been a huge supporter of artists in the area, both artists selling their goods and musical artists. Every year coming after this, we're going to have a nonprofit that we'll be working with to make sure we're giving back to an important aspect of our community," she said.

Artists of the Rust Belt set up a merchant fair spanning both floors of the banquet hall.

The vendors sold handmade items including pet treats, chocolates, jewelry, clothing and mixed media designs from

local artists and companies such as Sandpiper Soap Company, Medusa's Adornments, MishMoccs and more.

Lauren Potts, Artists of the Rust Belt's event planner, discussed the impact the Arroyo family has had on the group.

"Artists of the Rust Belt wouldn't have a home if it weren't for the B&O Station. They are our venue every year, and we do at least three shows a year," she said.

"We have our show the weekend before Christmas, a winter market in February, a summer market in June and occasionally a fall show," Potts added. "We really just wanted to come out and support the family today."

Jamie Maese relocated to Youngstown from Columbus when Arroyo needed someone to bring specific skills and talents to the B&O Station kitchen. Maese's Daddy Dick's BBQ won Best in Ohio and was the food highlight of Sunday's event.

The menu featured ribs, bratwursts, chicken and street corn, along with a slew of homemade barbecue sauces to choose from.

"This [B&O Station] has been in [Arroyo's] family for over 25 years. Now it's run by his son and daughter-in-law, and they're putting a fresh spin on it," Maese said. "They are rejuvenating the downtown area, and we want to show Robert the love that he and his family have shown Youngstown over the years."

Maese encourages everyone to come to Daddy Dick's BBQ and bring the city back to life the way it used to be.

To learn more about Robert Arroyo and donating to his medical bills, visit his GoFundMe page at www.gofundme.com/f/robert-arroyo-medical-costs.

com/f/robert-arroyo-medical-costs.

Donations can also be submitted by contacting the B&O Station or the Boxcar Lounge.



Local act Triple Threat was one of 10 bands performing throughout the day at the festival. Photo by **Cailey Barnhart/The Jambar**

MAAG LIBRARY DEBUTS CONCERT SERIES WITH FLUTE DUET

BROOKE ZUCCO

Maag Library's lobby isn't typically filled with musical melodies, but Sept. 18 marked a new concert series, "Music at Maag," where students can now enjoy a performance while checking out their books.

Visitors walking through Maag's doors were greeted by a duet that kicked off the series where two students played flute and piccolo.

The students are members of the Youngstown State University Wind Ensemble and the Dana Symphony Orchestra. Despite both playing in the groups, they never had the opportunity to perform a duet together until this concert series, and they agreed it was overdue.

Mckenzie Cooper, a junior in an individualized curriculum program focused on music and entrepreneurship, said she thought they played great despite making a few mistakes.

"[Mistakes] are part of the game. You just [have to] keep going no matter what," Cooper said.

The performance was witnessed by students passing through the lobby, and many stopped their daily tasks to live in the musical moment.

The sounds rang throughout the lobby from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. as the two played common classical flute duets. The performance

wasn't complete until both students pulled out their piccolos to play an excerpt from "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa.

Although the flute and piccolo are held the same way, the piccolo is smaller and plays the highest notes in the woodwind instrument family. This made the performance's sound change, giving the audience variety.

But this performance is only the beginning of what is to come for Maag's concert series. Kayla Gilmore, a sophomore music performance major, was the flutist contacted to make this vision a reality.

"Ellen [Wakeford-Banks] reached out to me and asked if we would be interested in performing," Gilmore said.

Wakeford-Banks, a library clerk at Maag and member of the Maag Marketing Committee, organized this event that will continue to bring different instrumental and vocal sounds to the library.

"We're trying to be known a little bit more," she said. "During National Library Week we had music in the lobby and that seemed to gain a lot of attention, so we thought of doing that again."

She said she wants any student that would like to play music and has free time to play in the lobby. The performance by Gilmore and Cooper was followed the next day by a Nepalese student playing his guitar, adding a cultural sound to the series.

Wakeford-Banks said the library is looking for students to perform during the week between 9 a.m. to around 3 p.m.

All students with a love for music and an instrument to play are welcome to talk to Wakeford-Banks and schedule a time.

The next performance scheduled for "Music at Maag" is a string quartet during the week of Oct. 7.



Kayla Glimore (left) and Mckenzie Cooper (right) play their flutes in the lobby of Maag Library. Photo by **Brooke Zucco/The Jambar**

CONGRATULATIONS

MAC POMEROY

I remember the day very well. It was my senior year of high school, and I was at my final speech and debate tournament. While I had spent four years of my life fully dedicated to preparing and practicing for these tournaments every week, I had never placed.

This was my last chance. For this tournament, there were the first three regular rounds, but after that they would announce the top competitors to enter the semifinal rounds and final round. The judges had just posted who would be continuing on to the final round.

I took a deep breath and walked up to the postings. It took two seconds to see I didn't make it. I was crushed. It seemed like all of the work I did over the past four years was for nothing.

In the face of disappointment or failure, it is very easy to feel like we are less. We become so consumed in our actions that sometimes we forget that there is more to ourselves than our accomplishments.

My immediate response after finding the news was to text my mother. While we are very different people, she has always been there for me. I wanted to talk to her.

I texted her that I didn't make it. It took less than a minute for her to respond. Her message changed my way of thinking forever, even though that wasn't what she intended:

"Congratulations, you didn't peak in high school."

You may be experiencing failure now, but that failure isn't forever. Regardless of how big or small it seems, failure is not the end of the world, nor does it define you.

Just because you didn't succeed doesn't mean you will never succeed. That day, it was something I had forgotten. I thought my failure defined me as a speaker and writer, but it really didn't.

Instead, it was just another chapter in my life. This chapter didn't go as well as some of the others, and that's fine.

What is important is to keep moving forward. I now know that I am more

than I was at that moment. Quite simply, I didn't peak in high school.

I didn't yet reach my full potential, and my mom knew this. I didn't know all that I know now. I still don't think I have reached my peak, and I hope I don't for a very long time.

Failure should not be treated as disappointment. Instead, it should be seen as an opportunity to learn and try something new.

Maybe your failure is that you aren't doing so well on tests. Try a new way of studying. Or maybe you are having difficulty making friends. Try using an app.

Just don't give up. Don't let whatever failure convince you that you cannot do this. If it doesn't work the first time, try twice as hard the next time.

And remember, no matter how bad things may seem, you can continue. You can make it.

Congratulations, you haven't peaked yet.

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Members of YSU's Greek life, Sydney Wess, Anthony Romeo, Frank Viera, Jordan Dickey and Joe Schroeder pose next to the rock outside of Kilcawley Center painted for Hazing Prevention Week. Photo courtesy of **Jordan Dickey**

YSU GREEK LIFE HIGHLIGHTS HAZING PREVENTION WEEK

ALYSSA WESTON

Tables were set up in Kilcawley Center early this week to spread awareness of a national movement, "These Hands Don't Haze," where students trace their hands on a poster to signify that they are against hazing.

"These Hands Don't Haze" was part of an initiative spearheaded by Greek life at Youngstown State University to honor National Hazing Prevention Week. The goal is to shed light on what hazing is and how to prevent it.

Ally Cooper, a junior political science major and co-chair of Greek Campus Life, said hazing can occur not only in Greek life but in clubs, teams and organizations across the nation.

"Greek life at YSU is getting involved by sponsoring a campuswide National Hazing Prevention Week where we've had tabling," she said. "And there's a Sacred Purpose event held by one of our fraternities, Theta Chi, Thursday [Sept. 26], where a speaker will come and talk to us about how we can

prevent hazing and how we can increase our brotherhood and sisterhood."

Howard Hale, a senior physics and astronomy major and co-chair of Greek Campus Life, said YSU has "good rules set in place" to prevent hazing on campus.

"[Greek life makes] it aware to any student that wants to get involved in Greek life that if you feel like at any time you are being hazed ... let anybody know. Pretty much any faculty," he said. They have a no-tolerance policy. So, it's just immediately shut down before it even begins."

Frank Viera, a senior religious students major and interfraternity risk manager, was in charge of planning for "These Hands Don't Haze" at YSU along with Jordan Dickey, a junior nursing major and vice president of chapter development.

According to Viera, "These Hands Don't Haze" is a national movement to take a stance against hazing. He said he believes hazing awareness is important to erase the stigma.

"A lot of people just think it's kind of ingrained in our culture and that if you want to join a Greek organization that you have to do it when that's really not the case," he said.

Dickey said she encourages students to talk to her and other Greek life members on campus to ask questions about hazing because they know the facts.

"We're not like the news. We're not like the movies. We actually, as a whole, don't haze at all. It's a visual to teach students to join Greek life, join other organizations and say, 'That's something we aren't part of,'" she said.

According to Cooper, other students had the opportunity to get involved in National Hazing Prevention Week by signing an anti-hazing pledge.

"[Students] can just take an overall stance to prevent hazing because we don't want that otherwise," she said.

Students can sign the national pledge against hazing on www.hazingprevention.org.

THE JAMBAR

— EDITORIAL —

YSU'S LACK OF AWARENESS DURING SUICIDE AWARENESS MONTH

As September comes to an end, it's important to highlight Suicide Awareness Month and advocate for mental health resources for the student body at Youngstown State University.

Suicide and depression can affect anyone at anytime.

This year, YSU has held minimal events to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month, Suicide Prevention Week on Sept. 8-14 or Suicide Prevention Day on Sept. 10.

Samantha Neral, vice president of YSU's National Alliance on Mental Illness, said this year the group didn't host events for Suicide Awareness Month as it did in the past. Rather, the group focused on member training during the month of September.

Although the lack of awareness is disheartening, a "Suicide Prevention Sacred Purpose Event" is

being held in Kilcawley Center on Sept. 30.

Also, YSU's Students United organization held a panel filled with YSU students, tackling mental health awareness among college students by allowing them to work together as one student body to break the stigma.

Shedding light on suicide awareness and recognizing the signs of depression is essential to unite as one and bring acceptance to mental health issues.

Knowing the risk factors and improving the conversation among other students helps people realize they aren't alone in their struggle with mental illness.

Additionally, the university fails to address mental health in a proper manner.

YSU currently has two counselors in Student Counseling Services, while there are 12,155

students enrolled at the university as of the fall 2019 semester.

Although there is a psychiatrist on staff at Wick Primary Care that aids with prescriptions, three people are not enough for an entire student body.

The university needs to do better. Physical health concerns are never taken lightly, so mental health should be treated the same.

Mental health issues can lead to physical problems, including death by suicide.

Although the awareness this month was less than ideal, campus groups and organizations such as Penguin Positivity, YSU CARE Team and YSU Student Counseling Services are always available for students to reach out to if they are struggling with depression or contemplating suicide.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Gentlemen:

The Democrats did health care two weeks ago. Same-ol,' same-ol.'

When will Democrats confront the actual workings of group health insurance, the evil sun at the center of America's health care derangement?

Memo to Bernie, Elizabeth and the other health care universalistas:

There's an array of arguments favoring the

immediate abolition of group health insurance. The arguments come from the evidence of how group health insurance actually works. Hint: ignore how people believe it works.

Develop your argument for abolition. Try the Fifth Amendment's takings clause as one option.

Make the case for abolition at the next debate.

Forget your "Medicare for All" talk. People know that already. What they don't know is why America

needs to get out of group health insurance fast.

I've been writing for a while about how group health corrupts thought, word and deed. Trust me: historians and journalists of 2030 will go full shred on group health once political space is opened for them. It's that bad.

Jack Labusch
Niles, Ohio

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A volunteer in the dental department at the Remote Area Medical clinics dedicates her time to service Youngstown residents. Photo by Heather Newsome/ The Jambar

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Junior Lucia Zagar returns a serve. Photo courtesy of **Robert Hayes**

WOMEN'S TENNIS SERVES UP 2019 SEASON

MICHAEL EVANKO

The Youngstown State University women's tennis team started its season at the Thunder in the Mountains event in Charleston, West Virginia, Sept. 20-22. The Penguins finished 2018 with a record of 6-18.

The team hopes to bounce back from last season. According to juniors Lucia Zagar and Tamara Teufl, the key to improving is consistency.

"We worked on consistent serves," Zagar said. "We also played points because we think it's very important when it comes to preparing for tournaments and matches."

The Penguins started 2018 with a 3-5 record then went on a seven-match losing streak during which they didn't win a single set in four straight matches. Eventually, they broke the streak with a win over the University of Wisconsin Green Bay. Shortly after the win, the team went on another six-match slide.

Teufl and Zagar led the Penguins in wins in 2018, with 15 and 14 respectively. The duo said they are excited to lead a team that was young in 2018 but have gained valuable experience

heading into the new season.

"We do have the same team as last year, but now we're more experienced, which is why I think we will do better," Zagar said. "Last year, our team was really young and we just [needed] more experience. A lot of us didn't play in conference. Now, all of us already know how it is. That's why I think our experience will make a difference."

Teufl said she thinks the lack of freshmen may give the team an edge this year.

"Last year, we had a really young team, new players, transfers, and I think this year, since there are no freshmen on our team right now, I think that's the big difference from last year," she said.

In 2018, the YSU roster was made up of one freshman, three sophomores, one junior and one senior. This year's roster has no freshmen, one sophomore, three juniors and two seniors.

The team roster has nearly stayed the same from last season to this season.

One thing that brings the group together is something they

all have in common: none of the members on the team are from the United States.

While some may think that the players all being from different countries and cultures would separate them, Zagar disagrees.

"Because we are all international, it actually brings us more together," she said. "We understand that we are a part of a family. It's something new that we started here, so we help each other a lot and it helps us that we have someone who is in the same spot."

Teufl said she thinks the cultural difference is an advantage for the team.

"We get along pretty well," she said. "Since we're all from different countries, it's a benefit because we have different cultures. We're all sitting in the same boat. Everyone came to the U.S. not knowing how it's going to be, and we can help each other out."

The Penguins have a short break until they participate in the ITA Midwest Regional Championships on Oct. 16.



Penguins coach Bo Pelini at Youngstown State University's weekly press conference Sept. 24. Photo by **Nathanael Hawthorne/The Jambar**.

PENGUINS READY FOR THE NEXT HAMMER TO FALL

BRIAN YAUGER

Fresh off the bye week and ready to get back at it, Youngstown State University looks forward to its next opponent in the Robert Morris University Colonials.

Penguins coach Bo Pelini sees similarities in the way the team's defense is structured, but he said YSU runs a unique defense.

"They play a lot of two high, which that's similar to what we do," Pelini said. "I wouldn't say that it's real similar to ours. Our defense is pretty unique, but there are some similarities."

Despite being 3-0, the best start since 2012, Pelini hasn't been thrilled with his team's performance at all times. He's trying to work on that.

"I mean sometimes I've got to learn to enjoy the wins a little more than I did," Pelini said. "I'm the first one to admit that, but I'm always thinking down the road. Sometimes I have a hard time enjoying it."

Pelini said he knows perfection is hard to come by this early

in the year.

"I want to see perfection," he said. "I want to see us play up to a very, very high standard, knowing what's coming down the road. We're not there yet in any of the three phases, but I think we're doing a lot of good things."

Robert Morris is 1-3 and is coming off a win against the Virginia Military Institute. Offensive lineman Jacob Zinni said he knows that his team won't overlook the Colonials due to their record, which is something that they may have done in years prior.

"This team does a very good job of taking it day by day and game by game," Zinni said. "I've been a part of good teams here, and I've been a part of teams that haven't been so great. I think the one thing that has stayed consistent this year is the fact that we show up every day and we work. Anything else after that will take care of itself because of our work."

The Penguins have had success against teams from

Pennsylvania at home, with their last loss coming in 1978 against Villanova University. They've won 36 straight games during that span.

New to the sidelines this year has been the "Grit U" motto and the sledgehammer that comes with it. When the Penguins score a touchdown or cause a turnover, that player gets to swing a sledgehammer and wear a hard hat as a tribute to Youngstown's blue-collar roots.

"I'm all for it," Pelini said. "You're not going to see me swinging a sledgehammer, but they have fun with it. These kids work their butts off. I think it's a great thing to have an identity and embrace something like that ... It sounds like the student body and the fans like it, so I think that's a good thing."

Pelini is learning to better enjoy the wins, so maybe by the end of the year, we'll see him swinging the sledgehammer around as well.



Kara Raines follows through with her iron. Photo courtesy of **Robert Hayes**

YSU WOMEN'S GOLF LOOKS TO REPEAT LAST YEAR'S SUCCESS

NATHANAEL HAWTHORNE

The Youngstown State University women's golf team medaled in seven of 12 matches and invitationals on its way to the Horizon League playoffs last season.

The team now looks to ride that momentum and make it back to the championship.

So far this year, the Penguins have won the Roseann Schwartz Invitational and placed second in the Bucknell Invitational, giving them two medals.

"I couldn't be more pleased with our performance," Penguins coach Nate Miklos said. "The important thing is to continue to build on that heading into the rest of the season."

The members have a strong attitude moving forward as well. Miklos said he believes the team's experience is a big factor in its overall attitude.

The team's members are relatively young with 7 out of 10 being freshmen or sophomores.

Last year, more than half of the members were freshmen, but

the age difference hasn't hurt team chemistry.

According to sophomore team member Victoria Grans, the addition of new members has helped the competitive nature of the team.

"We got three good, new players on the team," Grans said. "We are a more competitive team this year than last year, so every one of us feels that we need to play even better."

In addition to the competition the incoming freshmen bring, they also bring out a sense of leadership for junior team members Kara Raines and Tori Utrup.

"We have a couple of strong freshmen players, and Tori and I will practice [with them] and lead them to a great season," Raines said.

As a whole, the team's expectation for the season is to make it back to the conference championship.

In its first invitational at Mill Creek Golf Course, the team won by 36 strokes. In that invitational, YSU had five team members finish in the top 10. They had each of the top four spots with two of them tying for first. Grans and sophomore

Puthita Khuanrudee shared first place honors.

In the team's second invitational, it missed first place by four strokes. As a team, members shot a three-round total of 898. Khuanrudee led the way, while YSU had three players crack the top 10.

"We're off to a great start," Miklos said. "I think we've got a really talented team, and I think as long as we keep doing the things that we need to throughout the year, it's going to be a very good year."

While not wanting to pressure themselves too much, the Penguins are excited to possibly raise the bar this season.

"I have high hopes for the season this year," Grans said. "It's important to not put too much pressure on ourselves, so we're taking it one tournament at a time."

Looking forward, the Penguins have two matches coming up: the Silver Lake Shootout, hosted by the University of Akron, and the Dayton Fall Invitational, hosted by the University of Dayton.