



Government reopens

As the government reopens, the United States begins to question the strength and stability of the federal government and politicians.

By: Ariana Oviahon

Sixteen days of darkness and chaos. The government shut-down for the second time in history, but has reopened until the final deadlines of Jan. 15, the funding deadline, and Feb. 7, the debt ceiling deadline.

On Oct. 17, Obama signed a bill to re-open the government and have the \$16.7 trillion debt ceiling lifted. The Senate and the House both voted in favor. Roughly 800,000 federal employees have been furloughed since Oct. 1; the new funding bill will extend back pay to all workers.

The bill reopened parks and monuments across the nation, and restored government services. The government re-opening doesn't solve all the problems that the shutdown avoided. The issues are still present, but the government is compromising to try and fix them.

Mr. Maas, Government teacher, explained the situation. Republicans and democrats couldn't agree on a spending plan for the fiscal year, which runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30. They debated over whether or not to pass the budget in-

cluding The Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare.

The republicans, who control the House, passed a spending bill that has spending levels too low to initiate Obamacare. The democratic Senate insisted the program be fully funded.

Congress has one job, passing spending bills that fund the government. If the government isn't funded, most parts of the government, including non-essential institutions like national museums and parks, cannot operate. Essential services, like Social Security and air traffic control will continue to be funded.

The last shutdown, in late 1995, lasted 21 days. The two parties couldn't agree on Medicare, education, the environment, and public health. Issues arising from that shutdown were resolved within a reasonable amount of time, unlike this one.

The debt ceiling crisis complicates the shutdown. The debt ceiling is a limit imposed by Congress dictating the debt the U.S. can carry. The government can spend above

the limit; however, it can't pay the bills acquired by issuing new debt.

On Sept. 25, Treasury Secretary Jack Lew warned that the debt ceiling would be reached on Oct. 17. Many Republicans said they would raise the ceiling only if funding for Obamacare was eliminated.

On Oct. 1, Congress allowed the government shutdown because no funding bill had been approved. The Senate wouldn't approve a bill that didn't fund Obamacare; and the House wouldn't approve a bill that funded it.

John Boehner, Speaker of the House said he wouldn't raise the debt ceiling unless Democrats agreed to negotiate cuts on programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Obamacare.

If the debt ceiling isn't raised, the government can no longer pay any employees' salaries or benefits "Since next year is a voting year for congress they need to figure out what their constituents want, it's their job to please them. This is hard to do since people have different opinions on this topic" said Mr. Maas.

Photo Credit: Allison Kinor



Junior Abigail Allen's unique experience at Oxford University in England adds something more interesting to her resume for college.

Duchess of Oxford

By: Tamara Young

With the excitement of a royal baby being born and basking in her freedom, junior Abigail Allen spent her summer studying at Oxford University. Allen and her friend were looking for international summer programs and found the Oxford tradition month long program. They both applied by writing an essay on why they deserved to be in the program, submitting a transcript, and one letter of recommendation.

Allen was a drama major. The drama majors studied David Mamet's theory of character, Shakespearean acting, street performance, personal development, and other theories of performance. A bonus about the program: she can get school credit. Allen believes she grew as a person, "I learned more about myself than my 11 years of education."

With other students, Allen performed in "King Lear", one of Shakespeare's infamous tragedies. Besides acting, they got a chance to visit Broughton Castle which is situated at the junction of three steams and surrounded with a moat. There was a dance every Saturday night, and they got a chance to explore London. She went punting; an aquatic leisure activity that is tradition-

al to Oxford University and swam in the River Thames.

One of her drama assignments included following an unsuspecting member of the public and learning their mannerisms. She followed a young professional woman who was bringing her latest dress designs to local dress stores to sell them. So, for her assignment, Allen had to wake up in her new persona, get dressed like the dress designer, and come to breakfast as her.

Allen made friends from Saudi Arabia, the Philippines, and Australia during her experience. "I got to meet nerds who like the same things as me," said Allen.

She described England as "magical". According to Allen, the people were welcoming and Oxford was fantastic with a mix of modern architecture and buildings from the 12th century. Also, Allen was in England when Prince George was born. She said the town went crazy until they found out it was a boy.

Allen stated the Oxford tradition program was the best summer program she has participated in because she had the most freedom and the most fun. Allen would love to go back to Oxford but it won't have the same significance. She doesn't want to attend college at Oxford University.

Powerful message prompts awareness



Photo Credit: www.nhtsa.gov

This advertisement from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration asks teenagers to refrain from texting while driving.

By: Julia Benore

Students 16 years or older will be asked to take a pledge against texting and driving. Di-

rections Credit Union is hosting a nationwide competition, and the school with the most percent of pledges will be awarded \$1,000 for prom. The pledge will take place on October 22.

To promote the pledge, seminars viewed a 30-minute video through "It Can Wait," a website informing against phone use while driving.

Every year, over 100,000 people are involved in texting and driving accidents, according to the "It Can Wait" website. The distraction makes an accident 23 times more likely to occur.

"All girls know it's dangerous to text and drive, but they're still tempted to do it," Mrs. Huebner,

assistant principal said. "Ultimately, [the goal is to] save lives."

In 2012, the Ohio General Assembly passed a law, which made it illegal to write, send, or read a text while driving. Also, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), texting while driving is six times more dangerous than driving under the influence of alcohol. Just sending a text while driving is, on average, the same as traveling a football field distance blindfolded.

Mrs. Huebner found out about the video when Mrs. Christopher, former freshmen English teacher, emailed her and asked her to share this "powerful" message.

Preview: Christmas Dance, "Ode to Joy", and "Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat"

By: Mary Kate Caserta

Christmas Dance: Something Borrowed Something New

The administration has made the decision to move Christmas dance to Jan. 11th. What is to become of this SUA tradition?

To the younger students who are not aware of Christmas Dance, it is a formal dance. Students get dressed up and go with a group of friends to the dance. It is a similar experience to homecoming.

Many students are referring to the dance as "Snow-Coming." Although the dance is still a few months away, the school is awaiting the new formal dance.

"Ode To Joy": SUA choir takes the stage once again

The SUA choir will be performing with the Toledo Symphony on April 6th, 2014. The performance will take place at the Huntington center to celebrate the Toledo Symphony's 70th anniversary.

However, the choir will not simply perform with their peers, but with 800 other talented performers, including both St. John's and St. Francis choirs. The song to be performed will be Beethoven's 9th or "Ode to Joy."

"I have performed this symphony both in Malaysia and here in [America]... I would love for you to have the same experience," said

music director Ms. Liu to the girls. The choir looks forward to performing on the Toledo stage this upcoming spring.

SUA Musical: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Rehearsals began on Friday October 18th for "Joseph." Auditions for the musical were held on the 5, 6, and 7th of October.

The story is about a father who has 12 sons, and his favorite son is Joseph. To show his favoritism, he buys Joseph a multi-colored coat, and through a series of events, he becomes the leader of Egypt.

This musical was Andrew Lloyd Webber's first musical on broad-

way and is as popular today as it was in the 1980's. It has a light-hearted plot with a large ensemble cast of over 60. Chorus is a main part of the show, appearing and performing in every scene. The whole show is sung with the narrators Sierra Sturt, Daniella Gilbert, and Kennedy Bohm. Stephen Gullete was cast as Joseph. Other male leads are SFS students Robert Pamies as Pharaoh and Mark Mossing as Potiphar.

The production dates are Jan. 30, 31, and Feb. 1. Mrs. Horrigan is the director of the show and she said she is very excited for the production of Joseph.

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- Life lessons from teachers Mrs. Kane and Mrs. Rode
- How to lose Intramurals
- Labre: Cara Pearson
- Halloween: Halloweekends and Terror Town
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- Sports: Dance Team, Cross Country, Soccer, Crew

FEATURE

Chemistry teacher unleashes classic Jaguars

By: Allison Kinor

It's clear that Chemistry teacher, Mr. Hojnicky loves his cars. From a young age, he wanted to own a classic car. In 2005, Hojnicky bought his first Jaguar: a 2004 X-Type, that he bought for his wife. They liked the car so much that he decided to buy another one.

When Jaguar stopped the production of the X-Type in 2009 they designed the XF, which has a radically different appearance, with larger grills and increased horsepower it breaks the mold of the X-Type. Thus,

the next car purchased by Hojnicky was the 2009 XF, which is the fastest Jaguar Mr. Hojnicky owns. The car is a light blue and is most commonly seen in the St. Ursula parking lot.

The 1993 XJS convertible was next, the only Jaguar that isn't in blue, it is a "british racing green" with a soft, stylish top that folds down to transform the car into a convertible. Lastly, Hojnicky purchased the 1973 XKE. When this classic car was purchased it was in poor condition, but Hojnicky restored it to perfect condition. The cars were purchased from dealers, private owners and at online auctions. Where is a man to keep all these

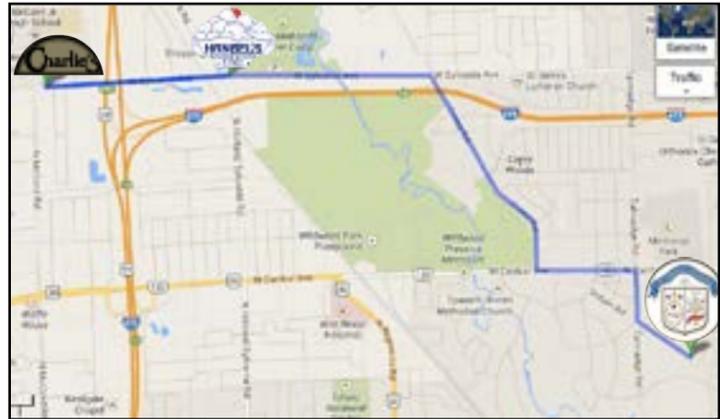
cars? Well, Hojnicky keeps two in his garage, one in his daughters garage and the X-Type is driven all year. Although Hojnicky said he cannot pick a favorite he mentioned that the "best car to be seen in" is the 1973 XKE. Whenever Hojnicky takes the XKE out, he is flocked by curious bystanders who want to know more about his classic car.

Hojnicky takes the 1973 XKE and 1993 XJS Jaguars to car shows, his favorite being the Northwest Ohio British Car Collector's Club show in Fort Meigs. Around the time he retires he hopes to buy the Jaguar from his birth year but he says that he is always looking for new additions.



Mr. Hojnicky takes the 1993 XJS Jaguar to multiple car shows a year. Out of four cars he owns, the XJS is only one that is not blue.

Review



Charlie's and Handel's: two popular ice cream shops within 5 miles of SUA.

Customers scooping seasonal flavors at local ice cream parlors

By: Sydney Pickett

Ice cream shops around SUA are bringing in the fall season with delicious flavors. Pumpkin flavors are getting ice cream lovers excited for the fall season.

Charlie's Homemade Ice Cream, located 4.5 miles from SUA, is bringing back its pumpkin for the season.

"From the moment it comes out, it's our biggest seller," said Mindy Goolsbee, manager. People love all of the spices that make it so tasty.

Charlie's pumpkin ice cream tastes just like fall. The nutmeg and cinnamon really add something to the flavor. It is creamy, delightfully smooth, and really flavorful. The ice cream tastes like good pumpkin pie, but frozen.

"Toward the end of October, we will start to make ice cream pies with the pumpkin for Thanksgiving events," said senior Kellie Muneio, employee since July 2013.

Yes, this ice cream is super good, but it seems to be missing an element. Maybe a graham cracker crust swirl would compliment this flavor? Many customers mix flavors to add a little spark to the ice cream. Butter pecan adds a lot of flavor to the pumpkin ice cream. Other ice cream places around SUA have enhanced their flavors with fun fixings.

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream, located 3.3 miles from SUA, has brought pumpkin flavors back as

well. "We have pumpkin pecan, pumpkin cheesecake, and pumpkin ripple," said junior Anna Niehaus, employee since June of 2012. The pumpkin cheesecake wasn't great. The actual ice cream lacked flavor, and the cheesecake bites have an artificial flavor. The cheesecake and the pumpkin compliment each other well.

Customers exclaim the marshmallow tastes surprisingly good with the pumpkin, and it adds a special texture to the ice cream.

With all of the delicious options, it's hard not to go with a seasonal flavor at the local ice cream places.

"Pumpkin ice cream is my favorite flavor. October is my favorite month because of the fall ice cream flavors," said Danah Schemine.

"Customers ask about them before we even get them! Nearly half of customers ask when [the flavors] are coming back. They go crazy over them," said Niehaus.

Pay a visit to these ice cream shops to try these flavors and the many other flavors they have to offer.

Maybe you will see a Saint Ursula employee. Juniors Maggie Fawcett, Amanda DelVerne, Tatum Suter, and Anna Niehaus all work at Handel's. Senior Kellie Muneio works at Charlie's Homemade Ice Cream.

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Embrace your inner aggression

By: Sophia Perlini

The pool was filled with cheers as the SUA water polo team defeated Napoleon following a nail-biting overtime and shootout during sudden death. But with seven seniors, the team is looking to add some new players to next year's lineup.

Water polo is, as the name implies, a team water sport. There are seven players on each side: six players and one goalie. The object of the game is to score as many goals as possible and is accomplished by the players passing the volleyball-like ball down the length of the pool, running plays, and taking aggressive shots.

Experience is not needed; however, prospective players "should feel comfortable in the water," said senior Maggie McNeeley. "[However] they don't need to be a swimmer or know how to play."

She recommends the sport to any swimmers who are looking for cross-training and "any incoming freshmen who want to try something new."

She encourages anyone who is interested to come to a practice and a game to



Junior Zhada Fields aggressively blocks a pass. The SUA team competed at Napoleon high school's natatorium for regionals this past weekend. With their victories, they qualified for state tournament this week.

get the feel for the sport.

The girls involved are passionate about the sport. "It's a physical, strategic, and mental game," said junior Adrienne Kinor. "It's also very team oriented and fun to play."

"[Water polo] lets the players get some aggression out," said McNeeley. "It also keeps them occupied during the school week and the team is like a family."

Players have their favorite parts of the game.

"I like when we're tied in the fourth quarter," said Kinor. "It gets everyone's adrena-

line pumping and it's great when we win."

Though this sport is relatively new to SUA, it has quickly evolved and gained popularity. The water polo team doesn't make cuts and doesn't have tryouts, so it is a good choice for any athletes who are looking for a fall sport to keep them in shape.

Overall, water polo is the perfect fit for those who want to try out a unique and aggressive sport.

OPINION

JA student athletes complete CYO season

By: Tyra Olowa



The JA cross country team finished their season at the CYO Championships this past Saturday.

By: Tyra Olowa

People have a different motivations for joining a sport. Some do it to learn self discipline and hard work. Others join because their parents want them to be active and get outside of the house. Sixth-graders Kaitlyn Gallagher, who plays soccer, and volleyball player Hannah Deck recap their experience. Seventh-grader Ashley Gerome, cross country runner, shares her participation in the season.

In Hannah and Ashley's case, this is their first time they have played a sport. "My experience has been good so far; I have a wonderful team, and our season is going well,"

Hannah said. "The highlight [of the season] for me was when we won two games in one day," she said.

"By playing a sport I've learned encouragement and good sportsmanship" she said. Deck also gave reasons why people should join volleyball. "It's fun and you [become close with] the people on your team" she said. The motivation Hannah had was "it looked like something I would enjoy and I felt I would make friends."

Gerome recalls her experience of running cross country. "Our season went well, and I liked it" she said. Although she plays other sports, adding another sport on

isn't too stressful for her. "Even though I also play soccer, running cross country affects me positively and I stayed with it" she said. "My highlight of the season is actually crossing the finish line" she said. Gallagher recounts her time playing soccer. "This season we have won one game," she said. Gallagher is a well-seasoned athlete. "I have played sports for 4-5 years and I also run" she said. She also says that doing another sport helps her out. "Running is good for training for soccer" she said.



SUA's CYO volleyball team competed in the CYO Pumpkin tournament on October 19 in the field house.