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What’s brewing this week

Phi Mu dance marathon
Phi Mu sorority held a dance marathon in the Student Center Atrium Saturday, Oct. 3 to raise money for Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital.

Golf team sets record
CSU’s women’s golf team shot a school record score of 608 over 36 holes at Carambola Golf Course in Viera, Ohio this season.

Kodaline rocks HoB
Irish rock group Kodaline stopped at House of Blues Cleveland as part of their “High Hopes” tour Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7 p.m.

Commuter corner hours lengthened
Student opposition causes change

By Elizabeth Weems

On Sept. 15, a sign on the Commuter Corner’s door announced the extension of its operational hours.

The notice mentioned an open discussion that was held between students and the Department of Student Life two weeks prior. This meeting addressed student concerns about the reduced hours of the Commuter Corner — known as the Commuter Lounge.

Last year, the lounge was open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., but at the beginning of the Fall semester, administration slashed hours to 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This move effectively cut the lounge’s hours of operation in half. After student outcry, new, extended hours will begin after Oct. 13, when the lounge will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

There were many reasons for the original hour reduction, according to Student Life.

Brendan Yarbrough, vice president of Student Affairs, said a decrease in available funds coupled with low use during certain hours justified the initial reduction.

Yarbrough said in anticipation of decreased enrollment this fall, he implemented a five percent reduction of the Department of Student Life’s budget.

However, according to Tom Geaghan, director of CSU’s Department of Institutional Research, total enrollment has not decreased since last year. This fall, first-year enrollment actually increased by 18 percent.

Brendan Yarbrough further explained the need for the effective allocation of funds because the department’s financial resources are limited this year.

According to the Office of Budget and Financial Analysis, the 2016 fiscal year for Student Life shows a $44,725 increase from the last fiscal year to a total of $101,810 this fall.

The second rationale for the hour reduction was support by data collected by staff members who physically counted students as they entered the lounge entrance last year.

Results indicated that before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m., students used the lounge less frequently. These counts were collected on paper and were not kept by Student Life.

Senior Chris Nahra, former marketing and commuter assistant for Student Life, reviews member cards who collected head counts.

He said collection methods may have been problematic due to human error. Also, while sitting at the front desk, workers can only see students entering from one of the two entrances.

Nahra resigned from his position during the second week of the semester for multiple reasons, but mostly because his pay was cut from $60 per hour last year to $40 per hour this semester.

Also, he said he no longer felt comfortable with a particular new responsibility delegated to him after the lounge’s hours changed.

Every day at closing time, workers in the lounge are now required to ask students to vacate the room, and Nahra said he felt uncomfortable telling other students to leave.

Commuters who use the lounge were disgruntled by the change in hours and did what they could to voice their opposition.

During the first week of the semester, Nahra witnessed many students collectively refusing to leave the lounge when asked. He said this unified reaction reflected students’ disagreement with the new hours.

“I think that students are upset about the hour change and about the new staff, and they were trying to orchestrate what they want done with the lounge,” Nahra said.

Although Yarbrough said the majority of students have expressed no direct concerns to him at all, one student has acted as a representative for what she considers to be the students’ general response.

Senior Ashlynn Rotta attended the aforementioned forum just one day after she created and circulated a petition that amassed 255 signatures within two days.

“I think that students are upset about the hour change and about the new staff, and they were trying to orchestrate what they want done with the lounge,” Nahra said.

She later sent her petition to Student Life, placing signatures on it. She mailed her petition to Student Life and asked them to contact her.

During the forum, Nahra had no knowledge of the petition, but he assures students that Student Life always welcomes their input and takes it into consideration.

With this outcry from commuters, Student Life decided to change things in the Commuter Lounge to better suit the students who use the facility.

In the coming weeks, Student Life will implement a plan of action that considers both the community goals of students and the physical space of the lounge itself.

This plan entails electronically tracking the hourly usage of the lounge after Tuesday, Oct. 13 and the continual involvement of commuters in the conversation.

Students who use the lounge will need to sign what Yarbrough calls “a Commuter Creed.” This set of guidelines is an agreement for access, and student contribution to its creation is welcome.

Students gather at one of the many tables in the Commuter Lounge to hang out and joke around during a tense between classes.

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“I think that students are upset about the hour change and about the new staff, and they were trying to orchestrate what they want done with the lounge,” Nahra said.

Because they realized that we only have one space designated for us to go, said Rotta. ‘The lounge is really the only place where a lot of students feel comfortable, welcome and at home, and they’ve experienced that on a personal level. To them, it’s like someone is invading their home, and they want to use a change.”

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"These events help [Rainbow]. They are a fantastic organization."

Each dancer paid a fee of ten dollars to register to participate, then recruiters sponsored to donate money to support them while they danced. About 167 people participated on the dance floor to raise money for the organization. The event started at 3 p.m. and ended at 12 a.m. — nine hours of non-stop dancing.

Rainbow helps children with medical issues like premature birth, cancer and even open-heart surgery, according to Faith Powalie, a supporter of Rainbow whose 5-year-old son, Maxwell, spent the first four months of his life in Rainbow. Max was born four months prematurely, spent three months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and one month in step-down at Rainbow until he was strong enough to go home. Today, the only problem he has is vision — a small price to pay, according to his parents. Maxwell and his parents. Faith and Tom Powalie, attended the dance marathon to show their support for Rainbow and all of the work they do helping children and their families. These events help [Rainbow]. They are a fantastic organization.

With all that they did with Max, we were just so in love with the people there," Faith Powalie said. "Anytime that there is a fundraiser or anything like that we try to get involved and help out.”

Max spent the day dancing and playing with his friend Vincent, who had also been in Rainbow when he was little. Max seemed to be a nice boost of energy and motivation for all the dancers. Max was so inspired by Vincent and Max's stories," she said. "I am happy to help spread awareness," she continued. "I am so inspired by Vincent and Max's stories," she said. "I am happy to help spread awareness, raise money and make a difference in the lives of others.”

Other than dancing, the event had plenty of food, a kid’s corner filled with games and an artist who would do portraits for the participants when they were taking a short break from the dance floor.

With music loud enough to hear outside of the Student Center and even into the next building, Phi Mu’s event raised a total of $7,827 for Rainbow.

"I am happy that I could help spread awareness, raise money and make a difference in the lives of others.”

CSU researchers receive $1 million in grants

NSF awards funds for biomechanical investigation

By Elissa Tennant

When was the last time NASA recruited anyone you know for research on astronaut exercise? And did the National Science Foundation (NSF) award them $800,000 to continue their research back on Earth? All in a day’s work for associate professor of Mechanical Engineering Dr. Hans Richter, who has been teaching and researching at Cleveland State University for the past 11 years.

Richter is part of a team of four CSU faculty who received grants totaling $1 million for their research from the NSF this year. The team received an $800,000 grant for their collective work and Richter received a $200,000 grant for his individual work. The grants total $1 million in funding for CSU researchers.

The team of Richter, Dr. Dan Simon and Dr. Antonie van den Bogert of the College of Engineering, and Dr. Kenneth E. Sparks of the College of Education and Human Services are using the funds for a project developing cyber-enabled exercise machines.

According to Richter, the cyber-enabled exercise machines are designed to sense which muscles are being used the most and which are being used the least during exercise, and then adjust resistance appropriately to involve the underutilized muscles. NASA originally recruited the team to conduct research on smarter exercise machines for astronauts, but Richter said after they presented their findings to NASA, they began considering the applications of such technology on Earth.

Richter hopes their research will help with practical athletic conditioning as well as rehabilitation of stroke victims and amputee patients.

Richter said each team member has an important role in completing the project. Sparks has experience with human testing and can recruit and screen volunteers for research and development, van den Bogert can create a biomechanical computer to measure the efficiency of the exercise and Simon can create mathematical models telling the computer how to react under certain conditions.

According to Richter, some research is considered applied research, and results have the potential to be sold and licensed to third parties. However, he said this particular research is more fundamental in nature, and the team’s focus is on testing the technology and spreading knowledge of the results.

The second grant, $200,000 awarded only to Richter, also relates to improvements in mechanical engineering. "I have another [grant proposal] I wrote on my own," Richter said. "It’s about control systems for robots. It’s trying to make industrial robots more energy efficient."

Though $1 million seems like a staggering amount at first glance, Richter assured that these types of grants are not as large as they seem. "The $800,000 grant is for a period of four years and is split between the four team members. Do the math — that’s $200,000 per team member and only $50,000 per team member per year."

Additionally, the university takes approximately 42 percent of the grant as an overhead research cost. Richter said this cost is standard and is always factored into the grant request. In fact, CSU’s rate is much more competitive than private universities, which can charge closer to 50 percent.

Funds from the grant are also used to pay doctoral students assisting with research projects, who can require stipends of about $20,000 per year. Richter also employs graduate and undergraduate research assistants.

Finally, because faculty are on a nine-month contract, funds from the grant go to paying the team members’ salaries over the summer months while they do their research.

At the end of the day, $1 million is significantly divided up, but Richter is no less thankful for the grant. He said the NSF has a team of expert readers who pick through grant proposals to pinpoint the ideas they think may one day be profitable. In fact, they’re more interested in fundamental research than applied, potentially commercialized research.

Richter believes this support of fundamental research is the future of the innovation the world depends on. “We can’t focus on the things that we already know and the everyday industrial things but then there wouldn’t be any innovations,” he said. “You have to place your bets on some ideas that could be big ideas someday.”
CAULDRON

Oct. 6, 2015

6 Commentary

CAULDRON

Oct. 6, 2015

7 Sports

Indians finish strong, miss playoffs

A fan’s look at the 2015 season and where to go from here

By Gregory Kula

I do believe in jinies. A few short months after players from the Cleveland Indians finished second in the cover of Sports Illustrated and picked to win the World Series, the team was eliminated from the playoffs.

Pitcher Corey Kluber and outﬁelder Michael Brantley ground the cover before the season, and now because they are not in the playoffs, they will have time to read the article inside the issue while they think about next year.

The 2015 season was full of normal Cleveland clichés — ups and downs, potential and “maybe next year.”

By Matthew Johns

It’s hard to find a team that puts in more effort than the Cleveland State women’s golf team. In preparation for the University of Toledo’s Rocket Classic Monday, Oct. 5, the CSU golfers practiced as a team every day, and put in many hours of individual preparation.

This combination of hard work is what led the team to a second-place tie at the Youngstown State University golf tournament held in late August.

The women’s golf team shot a school record of 608 over 36 holes at Candywood Golf Course in Vienna, Ohio.

Senior Alyson Hackman, sophomore Hannah Beanie and freshmen Rayna Ostrober and Ariana Gondim both placed in the top ten at the tournament.

Helping with this process is head coach Ann Ciavarella, who was hired this summer. Helping with this process is head coach Ann Ciavarella, who was hired this summer.

Through all of the hard work and the excellent coaching, it wouldn’t be a surprise for the team to make a splash in a few more tournaments this season.

Hackman and Lomas know the team will continue to prosper as long as they can push each other and themselves in practice and during tournaments.

Out of the seven golfers on the team, ﬁve are either freshmen or sophomores, but somewhat surprisingly, the team has had fewer struggles with player commitment this year.

The team faces, balancing school and golf has posed an even tougher challenge, and the long distances the team has to travel to tournaments only adds to the amount of work.

“It’s deﬁnitely hard sometimes,” Hackman said. “We miss a lot of study sessions and it’s a game.” Lomas said. “It takes a lot of trust and conﬁdence.”

At times it is very stressful, but it’s important to remember that it’s just a game.” Lomas said. “It takes a lot of trust and conﬁdence.”

That mindset will certainly be a virtue as the girls prepare for Cumberlands Invitational, the over 6,700 yard, par-72 course in Fort Clinton, Ohio.

CSU women’s golf sets new school record

Vikings finish 36-hole tournament with team score of 608

Left: Barson Madison Lomas, along with the rest of the CSU women’s golf team, is trying to take the next step in competing this season, while continuing to improve at the individual level. Lomas led for 11th with a 135 at the Youngstown State University Kickoff in late August. Right: Daniyal Styles, Hannah Beanie puts during the CSU Kickoff where the Vikings set a school record for a 36-hole with a total team score of 608. Beanie finished with a 73-77 for the total of 150.

It’s not by any means a “mafia” like the one at the Indians, but the team has a very strong bond.

“Anytime we’re together, we’re always talking about the game — and we’re always there for each other,” Beanie said.

With the team facing, balancing school and golf has posed an even tougher challenge, and the long distances the team has to travel to tournaments only adds to the amount of work.

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The Voting Rights Act, passed during the Johnson administration, came almost exactly 100 years after the 15th Amendment, which tried to give everyone the right to vote. Even though everyone had the Constitutional right to vote, many new, state-specific barriers were put in place to prevent everyone from exercising this right.

Dr. Michael Williams, associate professor and director of Black Studies at Cleveland State University, said the amendment was not actually effective until 1965 because of all these obstacles.

For about a hundred years — even though technically people had the right to vote — the former slave owners [and] the states in which they lived put in place things like poll taxes, which were used to prevents people from voting," he said. These restrictions were fueled by the Ku Klux Klan and other pro- segregation groups like the White Citizens Council in Mississippi.

The White Citizens Council ensured that blacks and people who sympathized with black causes — such as tracking down and apprehending black people — the states in which they lived put in place things like poll taxes, which were used to prevent the right to vote. According to FBISorg, The White Citizens Council used scare tactics — such as tracking down and spying on civil rights supporters — and supported pro-segregation candidates in government to oppress black people.

These tactics helped to force the creation of laws the Council saw fit to keep black and white people separated, which included keeping black people out of the voting booths.

Williams said he believes the views of these hate groups were among the main reasons the 15th Amendment didn’t work as planned during the 19th century. The country needed something even stronger to grant everyone the right to vote.

“The Voting Rights Act was a way of reconfiguring what took place over a hundred years previously,” he said.

The Voting Rights Act may have provided the U.S. with some much-needed social reforms, but Williams believes Johnson merely wanted to appease both the segregationists and the civil rights activists in passing the law.

Williams said Johnson walked a thin line between the two camps, and wanted to maintain support of the government by connecting the government to citizens.

“[This was] a powerful way to shake off a really intractable status quo,” he said.

The civil rights activists did not wait for the government to tell them they had to follow the 15th Amendment and allow everyone voting rights. Instead, they went out, marched and solved the problem.

“The government sets forth laws and regulations, it is the passionate people behind the passage of these laws that are the difference makers,” Williams said.

It’s less about waiting for government to flex and more about government enabling [to fix,” he said. “People don’t want to bring it up anymore because they think it’s over.”

Not only do everyday citizens seem to believe racism is over, but Williams also said he did not believe any of the racial tension prevalent today is one of the only things standing between a virtual segregation in voting rights and other civil liberties.

Mahoney believes the country will still be the same as it was 50 years ago without the act. “In the South, there would still be restrictive [laws] for minority groups,” he said. “Because people have seen that racism has been solved, they don’t see it as a problem anymore,” he said. “People don’t want to bring it up anymore because they think it’s over.”

If the same types of marches are happening right now, 50 years after the passage of the Voting Rights Act, not enough has been done to test the validity of the 15th Amendment.

“The Civil Rights Act influenced the way people attempt to solve issues by connecting the government to citizens,” Williams said.

The Voting Rights Act was one of the only things standing between a virtual segregation in voting rights and other civil liberties.

Williams believes that the 15th Amendment did not work as planned during the 19th century. The country needed something even stronger to grant everyone the right to vote.

He believes the Voting Rights Act is one of the only things standing between a virtual segregation in voting rights and other civil liberties.

The act helped minorities gain voting rights, Dorrance, Williams and Mahoney all believe it created the false sense racism had gone away completely.

The new movements for social equality take the shape of the old ones, but Williams believes all the energy fuels being wasted. The collective wasted opportunity cost of all those individuals who had to fight — and still have to fight — just for the right to vote is immeasurable.

“Think about if a Martin Luther King Jr., a Malcolm X, any of those types of people, had not had to spend their lives thinking about race,” Williams said. “What might we have come out of that? It’s a shame if you think about how much progress could have been made.”

Williams also said he did not believe the Voting Rights Act was anything completely new. He believes it was merely a way of validating the 15th Amendment.

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“On Aug. 6, 2015 — exactly 50 years after the United States government ensured all citizens would have the right to vote — President Barack Obama took the podium. ‘In theory, everybody is in favor of the right to vote,’ he said. ‘In practice, we have state legislatures that are deliberately trying to make it harder for people to vote.’

Almost 250 years after its founding, a country that halls itself as a democracy still does not know what it wants to give the right to vote.

President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law Aug. 6, 1965 and put to rest some of the turmoil in the country. This act was made law in order to enforce the 15th Amendment, which had been passed 100 years earlier and gave everyone the right to vote — regardless of race.

As time passed, the Voting Rights Act has been amended to perform better; and the Supreme Court has heard numerous cases that have sought to demolish the act’s power.

In many ways, it also laid out the plans and procedures for future voting rights issues.

Tom Dorrance, a visiting assistant professor in the Department of History at CSU, said the Voting Rights Act in 1965 provided groundwork for the Civil Rights movement. In many ways, it also laid out the plans and procedures for future voting rights issues.

The Voting Rights Act influenced the way people attempt to solve issues by connecting the government to citizens.

Now what?

By Gregory Kula

Hindsight is 20/20. The Voting Rights Act, passed during the Johnson administration, came almost exactly 100 years after the 15th Amendment, which tried to give everyone the right to vote. Even though everyone had the Constitutional right to vote, many new, state-specific barriers were put in place to prevent everyone from exercising this right.

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Kodaline concert fulfilled 'High Hopes'

Irish rock band astounded crowd with devotion to music

By Francesca Gariano and Abby Burton

"When it comes to a gig, all of your inhibitions are gone," Kodaline guitarist Mark Prendergast said. "You've just lost yourself. The crowds make you want to perform."

The Cauldron sat down with Kodaline's lead vocalist, Steve Garrigan, to discuss the band's love for touring just by their stage presence alone.

"Our sound is like — it's rock and a lot of pop mixed in and undertones of jazz and Latin. It's a little bit of everything," Senior Music Education major Mike Abbadi said.

Kodaline's performance at the House of Blues last Wednesday, Sept. 30, presented a two-album concert that astounded the crowd with devotion to music. The group managed to capture the room in a trance, from one song to the next. Each song on the setlist had a big meaning behind it and the music was delivered with precision.

While the Cauldron sat down with Mike Geither, an associate English professor at Cleveland State University, his scripts, "The Attaining Gigantick Dimensions," come alive on stage — whether on tour or on the stage.

"Gigantick Dimensions" follows a simple path from the script to the stage. It involves the whole story is building toward. It's a Halloween show at The Foundry Concert Club, and the band plays dress to draw tickets. Tickets are $7 in advance. Doors open at 8 p.m. Oct. 31.

Mike Abbadi, a senior Music Education major, plays keyboard for Essential Groove.

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"Gigantick Dimensions" follows a simple path from the script to the stage. It involves the whole story is building toward. It's a Halloween show at The Foundry Concert Club, and the band plays dress to draw tickets. Tickets are $7 in advance. Doors open at 8 p.m. Oct. 31.

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Irish rock band astounded crowd with devotion to music

By Francesca Gariano and Abby Burton

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By Delaney Canfield

If there’s one thing Clevelanders are good at, it’s braving against bad weather for the sake of having a good time. Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators.

The theme for this year’s festival was “Transitions,” a reminder of our changing city and also of a changing festival.

In the past, Ingenuity Fest took place in and around the warehouses behind the Great Lakes Science Center (6101 Lady Hammond Rd.). This year the festival abandoned the warehouses and expanded around the entire harbor and into Voinovich Park, making room for even more artists and musicians.

Another noticeable difference was a smaller space for fewer vendors, allowing more space for music stages and artists.

This year the festival went from warehouses and expanded around the city.

One of the most eye-catching exhibits — and not just because of its immense size — was the incredible artwork of Tim Willis at the “Moto-House.” His creation transformed into massive monster trucks and demolition vehicles, along with a robot that dwarfed the massive trucks it guarded.

This was my third year at Ingenuity Fest, and every year the creative minds behind it all impress me more and more.

In the past, the festival grounds were broken off into various sections, each containing different artwork and interactive spaces for festival-goers to enjoy. This year’s¨tech-tonica¨ was a space for musical artists to show off their skills and for visitors to explore small, portable trailers filled with unique galleries.

The “Possibility Promenade” was especially exciting. People created works of art on unique paintings throughout the evening.

Even more fun could be found atop two towers on “Illumination Island,” where artists lit up the night with magnificent art as part of the Platonic Playground and Harmonogram with spectacular projections flaring on the side of the Science Center.

One of the most eye-catching exhibits — and not just because of its immense size — was the incredible potential for something that could bring about change in such a lovely city.

Ingenuity Fest included several interactive exhibits and varying collections of artwork, music, and human creations to showcase the skills of a group of brilliant minds.

‘Quantico’ has a must-watch for drama lovers

By Shannon Sharkey

The fall TV season is in full swing. One of this season’s “must-sees” is “Quantico” — a new action-packed drama that premiered on ABC on Sept. 27.

It wastes no time cutting to the chase. The first episode leaves you hanging by the very beginning of what will probably be a season-long, surprise-riddled, cat-and-mouse game.

The series premiere opens with Alex Parrish (Priyanka Chopra) lying among rubble in what turns out to be the Grand Central Terminal in New York City. There has been a terrorist attack.

A flashback to three months before shows her and the rest of her group — reminiscent of an incoming college freshman class — who have been carefully selected by the government as newly accepted agents-in-training on the FBI Academy campus in Quantico.

“Quantico” is substandard, but that isn’t why you see these kinds of movies. In short, “Green Inferno” has some infamously bad scenes. Roth has the capability to create far better homages to these films — like “The Hostel” and “Irrational.” While the vibe of those characters is substandard, but that isn’t why you see these kinds of movies. In short, “Green Inferno” has some infamously bad scenes. Roth has the capability to create far better homages to these films — like “The Hostel” and “Irrational."

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There’s not much to say about the acting. It’s just better. The acting is for a screaming woman running for her life,” and “that’s about it. The rest of the cast is about the same. Levy delivers some memorable lines and plays a jerk quite well.

Short, “Green Inferno” has some of the best special effects. It’s a little more than the bad acting. The rest of the cast is about the same. Levy delivers some memorable lines and plays a jerk quite well.

In “Quantico,” important historical events — even if you don’t know. With a storyline that’s shockingly similar to events that probably never happened. The average trope of a playboy finding out he has a son was taken a step further with the added appearance of a daughter.

These types of shows always lead to more drama and “Quantico” has plenty of that. Even with its high points, “The Green Inferno” has some infamously bad scenes. Roth has the capability to create far better homages to these films — like “The Hostel” and “Irrational."

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With no answers for the explosion and the police and FBI claiming she’s not guilty, she must not only find out who’s framing her but stop them before they strike again. And the first place to start looking is back at the FBI Academy.

Of course, there’s always a little bit of sex to go along with the action. Despite the sudden wind and rain, this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators. Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators. Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators. Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators. Despite the sudden wind and rain this weekend, art lovers across the city hurried up and headed down to North Coast Harbor and Voinovich Park for the 10th annual Ingenuity Fest — a unique festival combining art and technology to showcase brilliant and innovate creators.
too many lives lost in Cleveland. Senseless gun violence needs to stop

By Sara Liptak

Alarming...