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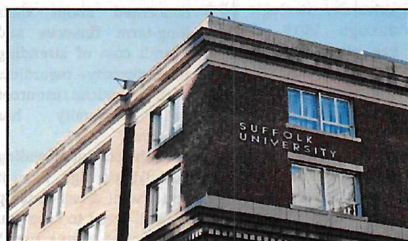
THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

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April 12, 2017

Temple Street speaks out

Some residents say they did not want Suffolk to leave historic hill



Haley Clegg/ Photo Editor

Alexa Gagosz
Editor-in-Chief

More than 30 years ago, Ralph Indrisano moved into his brickstone-Revolutionary era apartment, which stood, overshadowed by Suffolk University's properties known as the C. Walsh Theatre, the Archer and Donahue buildings. Students would travel up and down both Temple Street and Ridgeway Lane, a small alley just between Temple and Hancock Street, where they would get to and from the State

House and Cambridge Street. The university was respectful, Indrisano said, and it was a "good feeling" to have Suffolk just across the street.

For years, Suffolk had helped the residents of Temple Street to conduct neighborhood "cleanups," the university donated funds to purchase Temple Park and even went as far as maintaining the landscape of the rest of the street until leaving Beacon Hill last May.

"Suffolk was always kind to me and the rest of the Beacon

See *TEMPLE* page 4

Suffolk mourns loss of life cut short, again

Haley Clegg
Photo Editor

Life, more often than not, does not go as planned, no matter how prepared we think we may be for the unexpected challenges that lay in our paths. Some challenges are more trying on our hearts than others, but it is in the way we respond to them that really shows us who we are as individuals.

In February of 2009, Initta Andrews began her career with Sodexo at Suffolk University. Fellow coworker Alejandrina Lopez, who Andrews affectionately nicknamed Alex, had planned a trip for the two women to travel to New York City together this June. As life



By Facebook user Ambur James

Initta Andrews

would have it, Andrews passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, April 9th before their trip.

Even with the difficulty in speaking about Andrews, Lopez was determined to pass on the positive memories she shared with her friend, despite having only worked together for one short year.

"We became so close

See *ANDREWS* page 3

\$37,128

Tuition cost
for 2018 fiscal
year.

\$35,440

Tuition cost
for 2017 fiscal
year.

\$33,800

Tuition cost
for 2016 fiscal
year.

\$32,530

Tuition cost
for 2015 fiscal
year.

\$31,592

Tuition cost
for 2014 fiscal
year.

\$30,672

Tuition cost
for 2013 fiscal
year.

Suffolk University's tuition continues to rise for the next fiscal year, however, the university remains "more affordable" than many other institutions across the Greater Boston area.

SUFFOLK'S TUITION HIKE CONTINUES UP THE HILL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

By **Chris DeGusto**, News Editor

Since the 2011 fiscal year, Suffolk University has increased the cost of undergraduate student tuition by \$5,274. Students scheduled to attend Suffolk in the fall of 2017 will be charged \$35,440, an increase of 4.85 percent from this current fiscal year.

This increase of \$1,640 will be the largest incremental increase since the 2012 fiscal year of 4.8 percent. Suffolk has been, and over the next two fiscal years will be, one of the least expensive private institutions in the Boston area. "As we look at these

tuition increases, we look to balance those things we want to bring to the enhancement of the students," said Suffolk's Senior Vice President for Enrollment Michael Crowley in an interview Tuesday night with The Suffolk Journal.

See *TUITION* page 2

The dollars we spend on a great education at Suffolk can be visibly seen day in and day out.

**-SGA
Senator
Jonathan
McTague**



Haley Clegg/ Photo Editor

Protestors outside the Park Street MBTA station rally against President Trump's military strategy in Syria to "fix" the human rights crisis.

See the story on page 3.

Students question tuition increase, money allotted for strategic plan

From *TUITION* page 1

Suffolk's 4.85 percent tuition increase for the upcoming fiscal year is one of the largest supplementations of Boston-area universities; Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University and Tufts University all have planned to raise their tuitions at a rate below four percent, according to *The Boston Globe*. A neighbor to Suffolk, Emerson College, has planned to raise their undergraduate tuition cost from \$42,144 to \$44,032, which is a 4.47 percent increase, according to the university's website.

Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Laura Sander explained in an interview with *The Journal* that revenue gained from the increase in tuition will be put toward the extension of the university's strategic plan, by funding projects and areas such as full-time faculty and staff resources, the Center of Community Engagement

and the collegiate athletic departments.

A team of senior leadership within Suffolk's administration, the finance committee, as well as the Board of Trustees, have worked and deliberated to ensure that the dollar figures going forward lineup with both the strategic plan and the university's budget explained Sander. According to Crowley, the allocation of revenue is based upon what the university needs.

Both Crowley and a university spokesperson echoed that although the best interest of the students are in mind when tuition prices are discussed, attending Suffolk is a significant "investment for students and their families."

Some students in the Suffolk community are not entirely satisfied with the rising price of tuition and although believe there is a rationale, in the future would like for funding to be drawn from other sources rather than increasing tuition costs.

"The thing about a tuition increase is

that it absolutely does put an extra financial burden on students, that I believe are already burdened by the costs of Suffolk," said Student Government Association (SGA) Treasurer-elect Logan Trupiano in an interview with *The Journal* late Tuesday night. "It is my hope that the administration gives a detailed explanation of where this money goes, and why they're asking students for more money. And for the future, I hope they can find a different route for the extra funds, instead of from the students."

One student, SGA Senator Jonathan McTague, a government and economics major, believes that the tuition hike is inevitable and is happy with the results that have been welcomed onto campus. McTague said in an interview with *The Journal* late Tuesday night he personally believes an increase of student aid should be implemented to combat the rising tuition cost not only at Suffolk, but across the country. He said the

"It is my hope that the administration gives a detailed explanation of where this money goes, and why they're asking students for more money."

-Student Government Association
Treasurer-elect Logan Trupiano

benefits from having paid Suffolk's tuition price have shown in the form of the 20 Somerset building and renovations in both 73 Tremont and the Sawyer building.

"Although students and families never like to see an increase in tuition at anytime through their educational careers, it is inevitable," said McTague. "For that reason I'm happy to actually see results with new buildings, facilities, technologies and programs as our tuition continues to rise. The dollars we spend on a great education at Suffolk can be visibly seen day in and day out."

One factor that Suffolk allots a portion of its revenue to is the marketing of the university in order to

recruit new students. As part of the extended university strategic plan through 2019, Suffolk has planned to partner with an international student recruitment firm - this has not been an influence in obtaining the conclusion of next year's 4.85 percent increase according to a university spokesperson. The price increase has been directed at fulfilling the projects Suffolk in in the process of completing, as well as the plans that have been proposed in the strategic plan.

"We're definitely investing in the Suffolk Experience and the academic opportunity," said a university spokesperson.

With the tuition set to increase by 4.76 percent

for the 2018 fiscal year, some students are more concerned about their long-term finances and overall cost of attending the university-- regardless of the beneficial resources the university has provided.

"[The cost of attending Suffolk] too high. Even if you [have] a scholarship it's still going to keep you in debt for a long time," said freshman accounting major Audra Cook. "The fact that you can rent an apartment in Boston for less than it costs to just stay in a dorm on campus should show that [Suffolk is] too expensive."

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Community remembers Suffolk soul after unexpected loss

From *ANDREWS* page 1

in such a short time, it was unbelievable, it was like little sisters. We joked around, we'd sing at the end of the night as we were closing, we'd put music on and she'd be singing, it was just beautiful. I loved to see her happy like that, to see her in wonderland" said Lopez.

Many of her coworkers will remember her for her years of dedication to her job. "I've known her for about two and a half years. She was very devoted to work and keeping the place clean" said fellow Sodexo worker Lars Bower.

Michael Nowak, the chef manager in the 150 Tremont dining hall will remember her for her work ethic. "She was always informative with all the students, she

always helped to get our promotions out. She kept the dining room cleaner than any other person. She was always out here running back and forth, always very thorough in everything she did" he said.

For some, Andrews was more than just a coworker. "Initta was like a daughter, like a niece, like a best friend" said Darrell Young, smiling at his memories with her. "She was such a high spirited person. Now I don't know how high spirited she was outside of work, but when she walked through those doors, it was just uplifting."

Young had nothing but positive memories to share about Andrews. "The days that I'd work and she'd work, I would just look forward to seeing her, because I knew she was just going to say something that

would make my day go better than I planned. She was a wonderful person, and she will be remembered for life. She touched my heart, I must say, she was the most beautiful person."

Diane Hairston, a fellow coworker who worked side by side with Andrews for several years was especially touched by the shining light that Andrews was.

"She was like my girl, all of us, she was our girl. She always came in and greeted us with a smile, no matter how she felt, she always gave us a smile. She would help anybody out who needed it. I just love her, I miss her, I'm going to miss her for a long time" said Hairston.

Andrews never missed an opportunity to make her coworkers smile. "I miss her hugs. She used to come right up to us and hug us" said Hairston.

Amy Shantzis will miss the sense of community that Andrews created among everyone that worked alongside her. "Initta was very very warm, she was super loving and kind and welcoming. She was always inviting people to go out, and kind of create a really big family environment within the building. It doesn't matter who you were, she would greet you as if she knew you her entire life."

Despite the passing of her friend, Lopez has decided to go ahead with the trip the pair had planned. She will travel to New York City, where she will bring a photograph of Andrews with her as a way to honor her dreams and to celebrate the life of her friend.

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Haley Clegg/ Photo Editor

Protestors sweep through Downtown against Trump

Felicity Otterbein
Arts Editor

Protesters gathered around the Park Street T-stop as overcast skies loomed over the growing crowd late Friday afternoon. Chanting "no war on Syria," and "hands off Syria," the crowd of 200 gathered to voice their criticisms regarding the recent airstrike authorized by President Trump against the Syrian government and forewarned that the country could be going to war.

One of the main organizers of the protest was Massachusetts Peace Action (MAP), a 60-year-old group, the organization is the largest grassroots peace

organization in the country.

"We're upset that President Trump has launched an armed attack on Syria, that is against U.S. law," said MAP Executive Director Cole Harrison in a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal. "For the President to start a war without Congress, it is also against international law."

With the help of six peace organizations, campus and socialist groups, the demonstration was organized at 1:00 a.m. on Friday morning, and was then up and running by Friday evening according to Harrison.

According to Harrison, there is no sure way to know who ordered the initial chemical attack in Syria, which supposedly acted as the catalyst for

the U.S. airstrike. Harrison said that even though it is difficult to try and solve the ongoing issues in Syria, an airstrike is not the right way to solve any problem.

According to NBC News, the U.S. fired 59 Tomahawk cruise missiles at Syria on Thursday night in response to what it believes was a chemical weapons attack that killed more than 100 people. According to White House Officials, the graphic images arising from the damage done by the chemical weapon attack on Tuesday afternoon carried significant weight for President Trump, which lead him him to pursue possible routes of action. Syria claimed that at least six people were killed after the missiles landed, but the Pentagon said that civilians were

not targeted and that the strike was aimed at a military airfield in the city of Homs.

Harrison claimed that this airstrike was a way to distract people from President Trump's domestic problems due to his unpopularity amongst American residents. Harrison also said that this action was an attempt to increase his popularity and have more civilians fall in line behind him and support a potential war.

"The American people are not going to be benefited by this and he wants 54 billion dollars increase in military spending, he's [going to] take it out of everything that people depend on. He's going to take it out of housing, education, environmental protection, and everything else and

we have to stop these wars immediately," said Harrison.

Martha Neuman, junior Northeastern student, told The Journal that she was contacted by one of her co-organizers the night of the attack in Syria and the two decided to take action. Working together with MPA, Neuman said she appreciated the grassroots aspect of the demonstration.

"We can't stay silent, we can't sit back and let people continue to be killed both by (President Bashar al-) Assad and by the U.S. government," she said.

Harrison said that he was pleased with the turnout that was generated by the organizations involved and estimated that there were about 200

participants involved. He said that he hopes that these people will go back to their campuses and communities to educate those who are interested in joining the movement, as well as visiting Congress members to demand further action.

Harrison told The Journal that the next demonstration he will be a part of will be a Tax-Day march in Cambridge on April 15 in the hopes of shedding light on Trump's budget and its potential effects on the public. Harrison also said that the protest will be calling attention to the tax system and will be calling on Trump to release his own taxes.

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THE SUFFOLK JOURNAL

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Flood in 10 West leaves some misplaced, others return back to their original dormitories

Kyle Crozier
Journal Staff

Students have begun to move back into their rooms after being displaced while work to repair water-damaged 10 West rooms was underway. Now after nearly three weeks, the maintenance process has come to a close for some, while others remain separated from their roommates and their belongings.

During construction, students had been asked by administration to stay out of the way, forcing many of the students to attempt to work around the schedules of the workers in order to enter their rooms and retrieve any property they needed.

Residents of room 313 stated that when they were in their room, they had positive experiences with the workers. Gia Sarkis said that talking to the workers, "gave us the updates we weren't getting from ResLife."

Issues did arrive when Suffolk administration heard that students had returned to their rooms unattended, leading to Jessica Wheeler, Suffolk's Residence Director, to email a group of students to inform them of her concern. Wheeler wrote to the students, "We want to get you back into your room as quickly as possible and that requires some compliance on your end."

In an interview with The Journal, sophomore Jillian Hanson said that she and her roommates

had done their best to stay out of the way of any work being done, but that, "we needed to get our books, I don't know how they were expecting us to be productive without our class material."

The process of relocation proved to be a stressor for several students, who were subject to many inconsistencies with placement into their temporary housing. Some students were offered hotel rooms for their period out of the dorms, while another had been asked to sleep in a room with two other strangers, exceeding the designed capacity of the suite.

Michal Kanra, a resident of room 214, was lucky enough to be asked to stay coincidentally with his roommate from the



Room 313 in 10 West.

previous year, while 213 resident Sabrina Young described living in the four person room they were assigned as "rough" but that, "it is doable."

Those students living in room 313 returned Tuesday night, ending the commute some had to make from hotels or home to their classes. Having seen the condition of the suite throughout multiple

states of construction, Hanson was excited to see what progress had been made in the past few days. After moving back in, she said that the room "looks amazing," and that "everything looks brand new, even the bathroom was spotless."

For some students, this event is a just blip on the radar of stories to tell in years to come, but

for several of the seniors affected, they will have spent several of their last weeks in the rooms of strangers, asked to make an appointment in order to step foot in their own bedroom.

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Some Beacon Hill residents not confident with new neighbors

From *TEMPLE* page 1

on a predominantly pedestrian street.

The existing Donahue and Archer buildings are already 16.75 feet higher than height limit in Beacon Hill. The project design's penthouses have made many residents worry about the cast shadows that are not currently there.

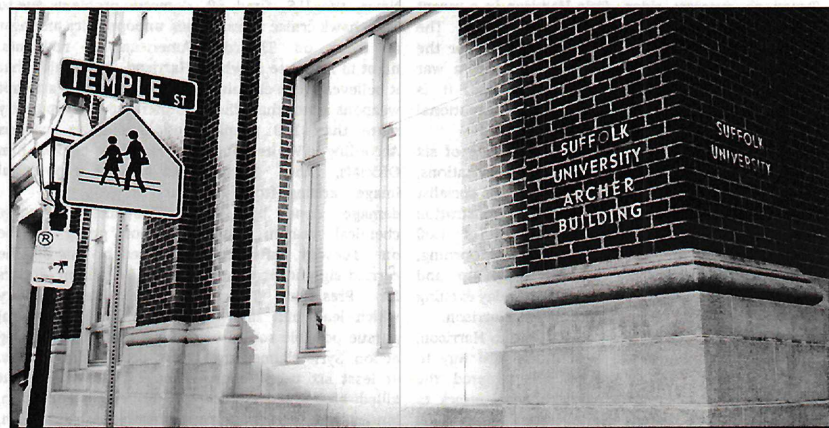
Hill community," said Indrisano, a resident who took various classes and even used the Mildred Sawyer Library, in an interview with a Journal reporter in November.

The Dedham, MA company JDMD Owner LLC, an affiliate of Center Court Properties, purchased Suffolk's former properties for \$43.5 million in July of 2015. The sale of the buildings came after the university's several-year long battle with the Beacon Hill Civic Association who claimed that residents did not want college students in the area- including the two historic buildings on Temple Street any longer.

Since the sale, the purchaser, JDMD, has faced a number of issues on their proposed project of renovating the buildings to create 75 condos and 60 parking spaces in an underground garage. Temple Street residents have voiced their concern and opposition over both the height of the building being raised for a penthouse as well as the possible traffic increase

JDMD, who could not be contacted for an interview, has been approved to reconvert both buildings by the Beacon Hill Architectural Commission as of late February after months of revising outstanding issues to the proposal plans, but several residents of Temple Street said there have been no signs of construction, or even activity.

"The building - the birthplace of Suffolk University - has been recognized by the National Park Service and the Massachusetts Commission as a significant and important contributor to the National Landmark District," said member of the Boston Redevelopment Authority's original Institutional Advisory Group (IAG) Rob Whitney to the Beacon Hill Times in November on his frustration with JDMD's proposition to add penthouse floors that



Haley Clegg/ Photo Editor

JDMD Owner LLC will be transforming the old Suffolk University properties on Temple Street into 75 condominiums and a 60-space underground parking garage. Construction has not begun, according to some residents.

would not align with the Hill's historic "charm."

Since late September, an alarm has sounded throughout the Donahue building. Many residents claimed in interviews with The Suffolk Journal that they called the number listed on sheets of paper in the windows of the Donahue building to reporting the alarms, but said that no one came to shut them off.

"It's been really irritating to have the alarm constantly going off," said Craig Bagley,

who has lived on Temple Street for just over a year. "It's been going off for months."

In the 1970s, it was Suffolk that had aided the Beacon Hill Civic Association and the Northeast Slope Neighborhood Association to transform the street from a neglected concrete slab into the brick walkway and minimal automotive traffic that it has today by donating funds.

One resident, who wished to remain anonymous said that

"most" of the residents on Temple Street did not want the university to leave.

"I never did mind the university being there. It was their right," said the woman in an interview with a Journal reporter in late February. "They were part of the historic neighborhood too. It was a shame when they left. We all thought so."

The woman said that she had lived on Temple Street for a number of years but then moved onto Hancock Street. She

said that the university would have "never" created the traffic that the proposed 60-space parking garage will and the traffic that the condos will create.

"We have lost that battle," she said. "It's not even the construction that we are concerned with, it's what comes next with the influx of traffic."

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SUMUN strives for success in New York

Haley Clegg
Photo Editor

Since February, Suffolk University's Model United Nations (SUMUN) club has been honing their skills in preparation of their competition against some of their brightest peers. This week the team is attending their third conference of the year, competing at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City.

Preparations began in February after the team returned from a conference at Harvard University. For many, the Harvard convention was a completely new experience. Yazeed Abu-Ghazaleh, the soon-to-be inaugurated president-elect, was proud of their performance, despite having not competed in this type of conference in a number of years.

"I think our team did very well in adapting to the new procedures, considering the Harvard rules were different from what we had done in the past," said Abu-Ghazaleh.



Courtesy of Yazeed Abu-Ghazaleh

SUMUN poses for a photo in New York.

Senior government major Ruslan Gorsky also attended the Harvard convention, where Suffolk University represented the Republic of Cuba.

"The whole environment was high paced, and leaves no room for error, instead prompting delegations to think swiftly on their feet and make leadership decisions whilst maintaining diplomatic ties with all relevant parties," he said in a statement to the Suffolk Journal. "It was a learning experience that was at times fascinating and

exhilarating and at other times frustrating and downright exhausting."

Prior to the New York conference, the SUMUN team worked on strengthening specific skills that would enable them to be successful at these conferences. Such skills included public speaking, parliamentary procedure, and resolution writing.

"Our goal is and always has been to be the most well-rounded candidates that we can be, by honoring our delegated countries political position, and whilst still

being persuasive with our public presence and our interpersonal skills," said Gorsky.

The skills students acquire by being a part of SUMUN are not specific to any one particular major, and can be applied to a vast expanse of professions. "I think that as a business student, joining SUMUN has made me not only more confident, and more capable, but frankly a more competent business student and hopefully this will carry-on to make me a better businessman," said Abu-Ghazaleh in

an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

Abu-Ghazaleh has high hopes for the future of SUMUN. "Our long-term goals are focused on growth, and growth in every sense of the word. Growth in the number of members, growth in the quality of members, and the intrinsic growth within each member. Essentially we hope to expand our network among other MUN clubs around Boston, and potentially the rest of the Northeast," said Abu-Ghazaleh in an interview with The Suffolk Journal.

With students so hard-working and ambitious, there is no limit to what SUMUN will be able to accomplish in the future. "I learned that there really is no cap to what we can achieve," said Abu-Ghazaleh. "Every limitation we set for ourselves is nothing more than a glass ceiling and every glass ceiling can be broken."

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Syria gives Trump ratings bump

From SYRIA page 5

the attack. He smelled blood in the water and, similarly to his campaign strategy, chose to attack. This type of impulsivity, which is a trademark characteristic of Trump, has faced intense scrutiny in the past, but now elicits praise.

This is not a surprise to anyone who has an adequate understanding of American history. This time, Trump's erratic behavior resulted in military action, not a 4 a.m. twitter tirade, and war is the ultimate unifier. According to a Gallup poll, President George W. Bush's approval rating skyrocketed after he announced the war on terror following 9/11. The same can be said of John F. Kennedy's approval rating after the Cuban missile crisis.

This could be the beginning of bold military moves by the newly elected Trump. Now he knows what his audience wants. He claimed that the photographs of Syrian children suffocating on sarin gas led him to strike, taking advantage of an emotionally raw America.

How realistic is it to believe that a heartbroken Trump decided that enough was enough and it was time to intervene for the sake of Syria's innocent? The same suffering women and children that swayed Trump to spend an estimated \$93 million on a missile strike are the same women and children that he's been tirelessly trying to keep out of the United States. Trump's decision to intervene in Syria directly contradicts the isolationist, America-first sentiment that he has maintained thus far. This is why it's imperative to note the immediate cause-and-effect of the missile attack.

For Assad and the Syrian Government, the destruction of one of their airfields is a shallow warning, but that is all that it seemed to be. The Al Shayrat Airfield can, and most likely will, be rebuilt. The true test of Trump's commitment to Syria will be on display in the upcoming months.

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Professor takes hard look at Israeli journalism

Amy Koczera
Journal Staff

Throughout these past several decades, the Yemenite Babies Affair has been a much-debated controversy. During this crisis, Yemenite children were kidnapped from their homes from the late 1940's up until the mid-1950's. Suffolk University Professor of Communication and Journalism Shoshana Madmoni-Gerber held a seminar in the Poetry Center this past week analyzing the presence and impact of Israeli media during this crisis.

Madmoni-Gerber was born and raised in Israel to parents of Yemenite descent. She has worked as a journalist for several Israeli publications and also as a broadcast journalist, concentrating on investigative journalism in Israel.

In her book, "Israeli Media and the Framing of Internal Conflict," she examines bias within Israel and the media at large through the lens of the news coverage

of the Yemenite Babies Affair. The seminar took audience members inside her book as she told the story of the affair and the role she played in uncovering the mystery behind these events.

Madmoni-Gerber was inspired to investigate the Yemenite Babies Affair while working at a small Israeli newspaper called "The Hammer."

During the mass immigration of Jews during the 1940's and 50's, thousands of babies disappeared from immigrant absorption and transit camps throughout Israel.

She recalled one memory from her childhood when she saw an ambulance driver take her aunt's daughter. In several other cases, she said babies were ripped out of their mother's hands and never returned.

Madmoni-Gerber showed video clips from the investigative show Uvda on Channel Two where she worked as a broadcast journalist. These clips were from actual Yemenite parents whose babies were

kidnapped; they vividly showed the horror and suffering these parents endured when their children were stolen.

No investigation into the kidnappings came until the mid 1960's. Madmoni-Gerber said all Israelis are drafted when they turn 16. However, when these kidnapped children never showed up for the draft, they came to the doors of the parents from which the children were stolen. From there, three commissions ensued.

While the first two commissions revealed little information about the affair, the third Kedmi Commission, lasting from 1995 to 2001, revealed the most shocking data because it had the power to subpoena. The Kedmi Commission heard roughly 1,053 court cases and revealed that roughly 972 children had died. The children who were kidnapped were most likely sold to affluent families looking to raise a child of their own.

Madmoni-Gerber considered that because such shocking

results came from the investigation, most would expect the media to conduct a further, even deeper investigation of the events. Unfortunately, the media's actions were quite the contrary.

Because the Yemenite Babies Affair was not thoroughly covered by Israeli media, many students were truly surprised when they listened to Madmoni-Gerber's presentation.

Being apart of the media herself, Madmoni-Gerber explained all the censorship and obstruction that was such a routine part of the Israeli media. She said voluntary censorship was a huge part of Israeli media.

"My main finding was that the press was complicit," she said. "They were reacting to what the government was doing, not creating their own investigation." Israeli media went along with what the government said rather than conducting their own deeper investigation. "When you're investigating, you need

to hit non-stop with that issue," said Madmoni-Gerber. She explained that after a few months of writing about the affair, Israeli media eventually said they saw no need for further investigation. But she felt there was so much more to uncover.

According to Madmoni-Gerber, the government equated racism to rationalize why the kidnappings were not legitimate. They emphasized the babies were not necessarily kidnapped because affluent families wouldn't want a baby of Yemenite descent.

Madmoni-Gerber concluded the main theory, although there is a significant lack of information, is that the government was a part of these kidnappings and that's why they tried to deflect the media from a more thorough investigation because they did not want to be caught.

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Students send aid home



Courtesy of Pasquale Palmisano

VSU members work to donate medical supplies to Venezuela.

Amy Koczera
Journal Staff

Hard-working Suffolk students are known for their strong will and determination to provide service to those in need whenever injustice occurs. Since December 2016, the Venezuelan Student Union (VSU) has been working to provide humanitarian aid to Venezuela -- a country experiencing serious crisis -- through collecting medical supplies to ship to Venezuela from now until May 15.

Venezuela's Authoritarian President Nicolás Maduro declared a military dictatorship in October 2016.

Currently, innocent Venezuelan citizens face aggressive police brutality everyday. There are regular protests in the country that are often violently shut down by the military.

As this oppression worsens, more and more civilians endure abuse, fatal illness, and homelessness. The people of Venezuela have little money and limited food. Overall, the country is currently in a dark and hostile place.

VSU President Pasquale Palmisano, an international student from Venezuela, has attended

Suffolk since Spring 2015. As a citizen of Venezuela, Palmisano expressed how catastrophic and unfortunate the situation is.

"Venezuela is one of the largest oil resources in the world," he said. Seeing as the country is now in such a disastrous state, that resource is essentially useless.

"We have the ability to help Venezuela," said Palmisano. "The purpose of doing this is to implement a system where we can help Venezuela from abroad."

VSU is determined to provide aid to those that are helpless and suffering. They are asking people to donate basic medical supplies without prescriptions.

"We started this campaign to have medical supplies sent to Venezuela," said Palmisano. Supplies that can be donated include Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Multivitamins and Omega supplements along with other non-prescription medicinal supplies.

On May 15, all supplies will be sent to the Ayuda Humanitaria para Venezuela to be distributed to more than 85 locations seeking refuge in Venezuela.

Since VSU is still a relatively new group here

at Suffolk, their primary goal for this year is to provide aid for Venezuela. In years to come, the club hopes to enhance the work they do now by holding more events, collaborating with other groups, and increasing the size of their club.

"I think what the VSU is doing is a commendable effort," said SGA President-Elect Daniel Gazzani. As a native Venezuelan citizen, Gazzani feels a deep connection to Venezuela.

"My entire family still lives there," said Gazzani. "Having my family there is something that is concerning, I check in with them everyday."

People in Venezuela struggle everyday. "Knowing that VSU is doing their best to help those struggling is amazing," said Gazzani. "I applaud them for their efforts."

Besides sending aid to those suffering in Venezuela, VSU discusses and promotes Venezuelan culture through holding cultural events.

"We want people to enjoy, learn, and be aware of what's going on in Venezuela," said Palmisano.

VSU is holding an event this Thursday, April 13 in Somerset B18 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., where Harvard professor Ricardo

Hausmann will be giving a talk on Venezuelan Economics.

The club started with about 35 members this year but hope to increase the size of their group dramatically within the next year.

"We'd like to have as many members as possible so that we can help Venezuela as much as possible," said Palmisano.

Not only does VSU wish to help those suffering in Venezuela, but they also want to make their club a place where they can explain all aspects of Venezuelan culture. VSU members embrace the beauty of the country's culture while analyzing the politics and government structure in Venezuela.

Donation boxes are located on the ninth floor of 73 Tremont in the International Student Services Office and on the third floor of Sawyer in the Student Leadership and Involvement Office.

To see more examples of what can and cannot be donated, contact them through Facebook at Suffolk Venezuelan Student Union or email them at VSUsuffolk@gmail.com.

Connect with Amy by emailing akoczera@suffolk.edu.

Commentary:

Trump's missile strike on Syria was all for show

Jake Geanous
World News Editor

This week, America witnessed a new President Trump; a president of swift action in the face of an international atrocity. In one of Trump's most supported decisions thus far, the United States lobbed 59 tomahawk missiles at Syria's Al Shayrat Airfield in response to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's chemical attack on his own people last week. Although it was a powerful display by the world's most well-funded military, that is all it was: a display, courtesy of Trump.

As the current situation stands, last week's missile attack by Trump can be seen as nothing more than a publicity stunt. Until he elaborates on his military involvement in Syria, his actions can't be considered to be anything more than a reactionary, shallow attempt at a quick win. In a way, Trump's move can be compared to a boxer who attempts to remedy a losing streak with an easy opponent. Only in this case, the opponent that he set his sights on isn't going away after a brief demonstration of power.

Trump's first major military action as president was a superficial, self-serving maneuver. It targeted an enemy that the world was rightfully outraged at. Dozens were killed by Assad's sarin gas. It was a no-brainer for a newly elected Trump whose approval ratings have been less than stellar. It was his time to shine, but he chose to do so with an action that looked and felt impressive without any real geopolitical effect.

The results of the missile strike benefitted Trump, and Trump alone. He got a chance to act like a real president on national news, while Syria will no doubt remain a war-zone.

Nevertheless, the reality-show president's plan produced positive results. According to a recent ABC/Washington Post poll, the majority

of Americans supported Trump's missile strike. This is not a surprising reaction to the attack. Assad broke war-etiquette by employing chemical weapons on his own people. A response was warranted, and even a broken clock is right twice a day.

As video emerged of the missiles headed for the Syrian airfield, sweet revenge was in the air and Americans that watched the broadcast got the intoxicating hit of patriotic dopamine that the country was desperately jonesing for.

The problem is, Assad's chemical attack, that 59 tomahawk missiles attempted to address, was arguably caused indirectly by the Trump administration. The U.S. played a major role in demanding that Assad give up his chemical weapons in 2013. Just days before last week's chemical attack, the U.S. hinted that they were going to leave Syria's fate up to its civilians and let Assad stay in power; less than four years after he killed more than 1,000 with similar chemical attacks.

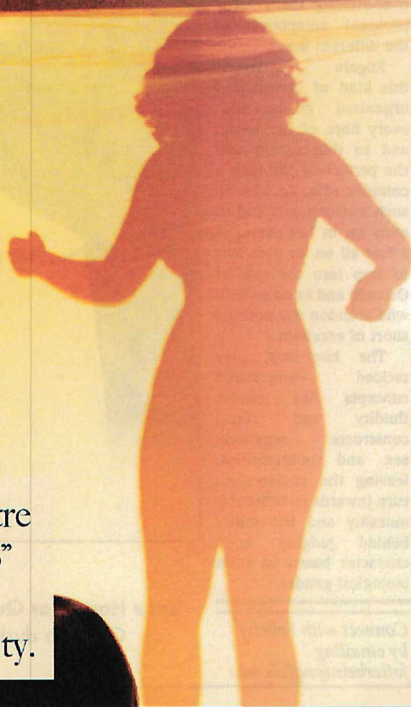
The "longer-term status of President Assad," U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said, "will be decided by the Syrian people." Later that week, Assad committed an atrocity against the very people who the U.S. stated would be deciding his future. To believe that this announcement didn't signal a green light for Assad would be, put nicely, naive.

The decision to call "hands off" on Syria is defensible, the U.S. perennially faces heavy criticism for acting as the world police, but the inconsistency that followed is concerning. A president, of all people, is required to be dispassionate in the decision making process, but the foreign policy that was announced by Tillerson took an immediate 180 degree turn after Trump observed photos of "beautiful little babies" who died in

See SYRIA page 6

WHO THEN AM I?

Suffolk University Theatre
 Department's "Orlando"
 shatters conventional
 concepts of gender identity.



Felicity Otterbein / Arts Editor

Freshman theatre major Mickey Rogers transitioning from the male body of "Orlando" to the female body.

Felicity Otterbein Arts Editor

Organized chaos. Perhaps one of the more ironically used oxymorons in the English language, is widely used to describe cluttered bedrooms or office desks for those who thrive off of instability. From a place of dismantled common constructs which may act as a source of inspiration, comes an outpouring of clarity. With this in mind, Suffolk University Theatre Department's "Orlando" attempts to personify organized chaos through a tumultuous glance at a life through the eyes of someone who seems to thrive within the depths of constant upheaval.

Originally written as a novel in 1928 by British writer Virginia Woolf, "Orlando" shatters conventional concepts of gender identity and has continued to do so for the last century. Following protagonist Orlando and how gender constructs can affect the life of anyone in any given time period. Starting in the 16th century, the play shows Orlando as part of Queen Elizabeth's court and how the raging

hormones of a 16-year-old boy affect his imminent future relationships.

The play itself is almost entirely delivered in third-person narrative. Each character would quickly announce the upcoming action that was about to occur on stage, similar to that of an action scene from a Robert Downey Junior "Sherlock Holmes" film.

From this ongoing narration stemmed humor and witty asides from all characters, effectively breaking the fourth wall. Working with the small stage set-up within the Modern Theatre, the entire cast of "Orlando" created a sense of time and space by simply walking around the stage to create the illusion of a larger living space.

To portray the ebb and flow of time, characters would meander through the posts of a large metal frame used to represent the framework of a house and would cast out billowing bed sheets to create a dream-like wave effect.

In a musical setting, the chorus of a production would narrate the ongoing action. In "Orlando," the chorus used spoken word



Felicity Otterbein / Arts Editor

Orlando sitting amongst chorus members acting out the limbs of an oak tree, the subject of Orlando's acclaimed poem

and nimbly navigated the set to assist with the story telling. Often times the chorus members would dress in beige, only adorned with hats and scarves when it seemed to fit with the scheme of

the scene. Freshman Mickey Rogers took on the incredible challenge of portraying the lead role of Orlando. Faced with the task of portraying a male role, only to transition

into a female role and maintain the same personality traits halfway through the performance without ever fully leaving the stage, save for an odd soliloquy from a few cast members, was a feat all

on its own. Yet while she did leave the stage if only for the briefest of moments, Rogers captivated the

See *ORLANDO* page 8

"Orlando" explores gender identity over four centuries

From *ORLANDO* page 7

audience with her innate ability to transcend not only both sexes, but time itself. A freshman theatre major, Rogers seemed to display talent far beyond a presumed beginner-level status.

First playing a male role, Rogers was able to deliver a spectacular performance as 16-year-

the female depiction of Orlando, it seemed as though she decided to maintain that same register. Poking fun at the lower tones of her voice only once during her early moments as a woman on stage while conversing with a male counterpart. She tested the octaves of her woman vocal chords as a means of practice by

Perhaps this kind of outlook stemmed from the overarching concept of gender fluidity and over-arching theme of a personal acceptance of the different sexes.

Rogers portrayed this kind of internalized organized chaos with every fibre of her being, and to that extent was the perfect fit for such a complex role. To take on such a strong part and so early on in her career is a feat all on its own, but to step into the role of Orlando and to do so with wild abandon was nothing short of excellent.

The hour-long play tackled complicated concepts like gender fluidity and social constructs regarding sex and relationships, leaving the audience to turn inwards to reflect on morality and the ethics behind judging one's character based on their biological gender.

"Orlando" attempts to personify organized chaos through a tumultuous glance at a life through the eyes of someone who seems to thrive within the depths of constant upheaval.

old Orlando in the 16th century. In a typical outfit worn by a man of stature in the English court, Rogers, complete with frilled collar, was incredible to watch. She delivered Orlando's lines in what seemed like a lower register fit for a male part, but as she transitioned into

carrying herself through a world in which she had just become accustomed to as a young man.

This feminine side resembled the performance done by actress Julia Stiles in "The Prince and Me." Rogers was witty and charming and exuded confidence in her role as a woman.

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Felicity Otterbein / Arts Editor

Kane Harper as Queen Elizabeth clutches Mickey Rogers as Orlando during an intimate interaction on stage.

Allston-based Vundabar set to perform at Boston Calling

Kendra Huber
Journal Staff

Vundabar, a local indie-rock band, started out with the intention of playing their music for themselves, simply because they loved it. Five years later, however, they are playing shows where their audiences can love their music as much as they do.

The band started out in high school, as Brandon Hagen, lead guitarist and singer, describes in a recent phone interview with The Suffolk Journal.

"Drew [McDonald] and I were neighbors at the time, and it was just one of those goofy bands you make in high school," he said.

Soon after Zachary Abramo joined as their bassist, the band became more serious. They recorded their debut album "Antics" in 2013, and began performing at house and college shows around Boston.

Vundabar started touring almost right off the bat. "We just felt that it would be a good idea for us to expand beyond Boston," said Hagen.

"Our ambition, however, has always been pretty simple and small scale, in order to be able to keep ourselves immersed in the projects that we are working on."

In German, 'Vundabar' translates to 'wonderful.'

considered a new and upcoming genre of Alternative Rock that is becoming very popular among independent record labels. As Vundabar demonstrates through their music, it is a form of sound that

"Our ambition, however, has always been pretty simple and small scale, in order to be able to keep ourselves immersed in the projects that we are working on."

-Brandon Hagen

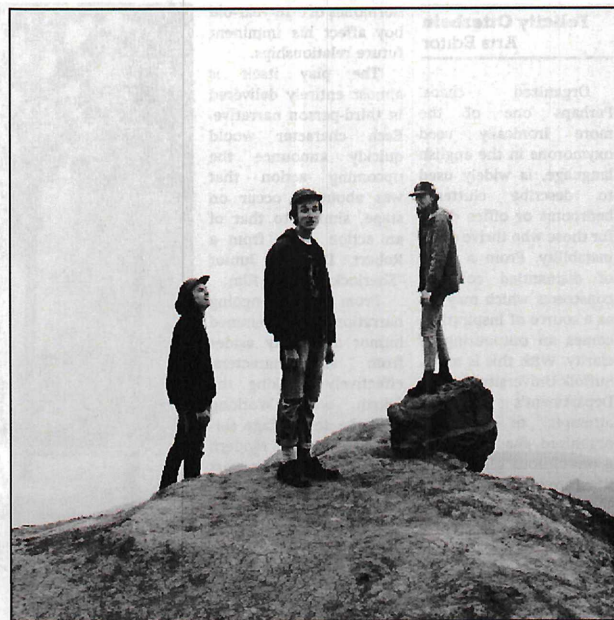
Lead guitarist, "Vundabar"

This Spring, they will be brought to the spotlight at the Boston Calling, an electrifying three-day music festival that occurs twice every year, since 2013. In the past, hits like Kendrick Lamar, Jack Johnson, Childish Gambino and The Shins have performed. Vundabar hits the stage on Friday, May 26, along with Bon Iver, Sylvan Esso and 2017 Grammy Best New Artist, Chance the Rapper.

Indie-rock is still

reconstructs emotions with a pulsating beat and passionate lyrics.

Yet, their voice goes beyond just inspiring their audiences, they also enact a high level of pure and raw fun. This may come from their sound, or even their rich sense of humor. Just from watching their live performances, their energy can be felt vibrating through their words and instruments. In their YouTube videos, their humor and rambunctious nature exude jubilating



By Twitter user @Vundabar_band

happiness, as they are filled with pranks with friends, and a good, classic sound. Watching them you cannot help but have a good time, which is something to look forward to at their live show at the Boston Calling next month.

Their thrilling and vivacious sound is the

archetype for musical youth, as they work toward their overall goal: "Do the good gig." They are currently working on two albums, which they hope to release this coming fall, after their Summer 2017 tour around Europe and a few places in the States.

To find out more about

Boston Calling at <http://www.bostoncalling.com> Follow Vundabar on Facebook or Twitter, or go to their website, <https://vundabar.bandcamp.com>, to find upcoming tour dates and venues.

Connect with Kendra by emailing khuber@suffolk.edu



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Mobile Application: Why Suffolk needs to innovate its tech

Patrick Holmes
Opinion Editor

In a modern society, we are attached to our cell phones. Some of us are more productive on our smartphones than others, but one cannot deny that an abundance of our time is spent on our devices. Between games and entertainment, to productivity and news, there is a mobile application for almost everything.

"Not every application is the same, but the same idea is behind the invention of these apps: to increase the productivity of the universities' students."

So Suffolk, where is yours?

Technology is an integral part of our lives, especially the younger generations. College students seem to use applications and the internet for a multitude of different areas, so universities should jump at the chance to increase the productivity of their students.

Suffolk holds numerous platforms for its students to be active online such as Blackboard, which is used to stay up-to-date with classwork. One can get lost between Blackboard, WorkDay, MySuffolk, SUConnect and many more sites that Suffolk offers its students to become more organized and are easily accessible. And just like every university, Suffolk has a website that can direct any student, or prospective student, to what they are searching for and where they need to be.

But wouldn't it be convenient if everything was in one place and at our fingertips?

Northeastern University is launching a mobile application in the fall for its incoming class of 2021, as noted at a recent accepted students day event. It seems that they are aware of how much use smartphones receive from students and are implementing ways to enhance the overall productivity of them.

In most cases, students have to search for various aspects of college information and are directed to a multitude of different sites. But what if it was all in one place?

That seems to be the thought process of the creators of the mobile application for Northeastern. This university and others want to make life for their students easier and to have them be more involved and aware.

Other universities within the greater Boston area have created mobile apps for their students such as Boston College,

Emerson College, Simmons College and UMASS Boston. Not every application is the same, but the same idea is behind the invention of these apps: to increase the productivity of the universities' students.

Suffolk should think about creating a similar database application for its students because as of right now, it is easy to confuse the many sites that are among different platforms. If all this information was in once place, it could benefit not only the students but the university as a whole, with less confusion from the people searching for information.

There could even be two versions of the mobile app: one for students and one for faculty and staff. Students are not the only ones who have various sites to travel to and work to do.

Instead of becoming lost among the web, students and faculty could easily navigate an app connected to their phone, or even their computer, that obtained all the information they would need from the university.

The app would include a conglomerate of information; from loans, to registering for classes, to even finding a club a student is interested in. The app for faculty could incorporate the system used for entering grades and many other structural

"Overall, the app could create an easier environment for professors and students to be more effective and rewarding."

sites that faculty use on a daily basis.

Faculty and staff would benefit from a mobile application because they are just as busy as students at a university. The app could influence the way professors reach their students and make it easier for professors to send out notifications and updates. Overall, the app could create an easier environment for professors and students to be more effective and rewarding.

If Suffolk wants to stay modernized and up to date, the idea for a mobile application incorporating diverse systems that students and faculty routinely use is a grand invention that could influence change at Suffolk. Let's enhance our innovation and move forward.

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EDITOR'S WORD

The Suffolk Journal's primary goal is to be a reliable disseminator of information here on Beacon Hill. We consider it to be of the utmost importance to keep the Suffolk community informed on what is happening at the university. Problems don't get solved if they are never brought to light. This is why an open dialogue with students and faculty on campus is key to our reporting.

A news organization is only as good as the contacts and sources that it works with. Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to stress the gratitude that we feel towards everyone that cooperates with us in our weekly publishing. We'd like to thank the students, professors and faculty that have gone out of their way to give us information that only they have.

Every member of the Suffolk community is invaluable. Everyone here has the ability to promote transparency and accountability through the unique knowledge and experiences that are gathered everyday on and off campus. We strive to be as approachable as possible and will continue to make it easier to confide in us, but without a supportive community what we do wouldn't be possible. Suffolk University has proven to be resilient in the face of difficulty, and passionate in times of despair. As the university moves forward, we must continue to coexist in order for prosperity to continue.

Kyle Crozier
Journal Staff

Many students living on campus come to a university with the idea of creating roots and developing a home away from home. While dorm living for many is an opportunity to experience a type of independence most people have dreamed of for years, in order to develop that personal connection with new college life there has to be someone laying the infrastructure to build that home environment.

After two years at Suffolk, my life in the residence halls has been plagued by numerous and serious maintenance issues, problems that have not only lowered my quality of life here at the university, but have also caused me to question how much Suffolk intends to help me create the feeling of security a home should bring.

Throughout my freshman and sophomore years in my residence halls, my room temperatures have fluctuated wildly. There have been instances in the winter of temperature dropping to 45 degrees Fahrenheit, and then spike to 80 degrees Fahrenheit; because of this, I have questioned whether or not Suffolk plans to take accountability for my grievances. Inside of my suite, window screens are

missing, sink drains have been stuck and ethernet ports remain unusable. Exiting my door and heading further down the hall in the building forces me to struggle with our elevator systems, which not only have broken down, but have been at the subject of controversy, regarding overdue inspections. Do I instead take the stairs? Unfortunately, an emergency door, that would cause much more trouble than it is worth, to use blocks off the stairwell to the first floor.

There are many elevators in my building, but the inconvenience develops when I stand waiting, for several

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My grievances progress down into the basement, where doing laundry means wearing whatever shoes I have that are most waterproof, as I know I have to prepare for a thick pool of soapy water from the most recent flooded washing machine.

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There are many elevators in my building, but the inconvenience develops when I stand waiting, for several

frustrating minutes, before I decide to try another exit. The first warning from Suffolk often comes at the end of the week from Residence Life and Housing in the form of an email, alerting that the elevators should be up and running in two or three days.

My grievances progress down into the basement, where doing laundry means wearing whatever shoes I have that are most waterproof, as I know I have to prepare for a thick pool of soapy water from the most recent flooded washing machine. I have to bring extra quarters so that I will not run the risk of having the machines eat so much of my money that I have no hope of completing a full drying cycle.

An alternative could be to load money onto my RAM Card for electronic payment, but any money on the card I don't use will disappear at the end of the year.

Although I have not yet had issues eventually finding a working machine, nearly every time I bring my clothing down, I find myself having to try loading my clothing into multiple machines before finding one that works.

Suffolk could easily improve the quality of the laundry experience by estimating the cost of one student to clean their clothing over the semester, and tack that

amount onto the housing bills. This would greatly benefit the student, assuming I am not the only one that has trouble collecting and using my quarters in those hungry machines. Attempts to prevent damaged machines could be as minor as improvements in education on what size loads work best in the machines, which settings work well for types of clothing, etc. If students did not have to pay on the spot for their washes, they would be less inclined to overload machines, one of the most common ways to start a flood.

Depending on the urgency of the problems, I will have to wait several days, possibly weeks, to hear back from anyone able to help. Perhaps they are preparing me for when I will be responsible for the full maintenance of my own home, but my preference would be to focus on the lessons given by my professors. From issues with the heating and cooling systems, to problems with broken furniture, holes in the wall, laundry room flooding and now with water leaking through one of my hallway outlets, I wonder if my parents would regret coming up with the \$12,000 for housing under these circumstances.

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Maintenance struggles to keep up

Rebuilding our Military with Trump

Letter to the Editor

As a Navy veteran and a strong supporter of our military, I commend President Trump for initiating a program to rebuild our military with a defense budget increase of \$54 billion. However, it should be decreased by \$1.3 billion and that amount added to the Coast Guard budget within the Department of Homeland Security so it is not cut by \$1.3 billion.

Our military has dramatically shrunk and been neglected in recent times.

Although we have increased the capabilities of our military through technological advances, we have downsized our

forces and we have not adequately replaced worn out equipment.

Due to the cuts imposed by the 2014 Sequestration Act, our Army has significantly decreased from a high of 570,000 soldiers after Sept. 11, and it is heading down to 450,000. The Marines are going from 184,000 to 175,000 and the National Guard and Reserves will lose tens of thousands.

The Air Force will have 700 fewer aircraft, and the Navy remains at 286 ships. My Navy has 11 carrier battle groups but at any one time a number of them are not available due to overhaul and maintenance requirements, in port rest and relaxation, and ships

in transit. It should have 12 carrier battle groups to fulfill its global missions in a dangerous world. George Will, in an article on Oct. 1, 2015 stated, "the sun never sets" on our Navy.

Potential adversaries continue to build up their military forces. Iran has a large army and continues with its missile development program. North Korea continues to test long-range missiles and develop nuclear armaments.

The two significant potential adversaries are China and Russia. China has a huge army, is currently adding to its air force and is building up its navy, including aircraft carriers and submarines. China lays

claim to the South China Sea and has established island bases in the region, which the U.S. Navy will have to contest. Russia is rebuilding its navy and maintains a large army and air force as it continues to threaten Europe.

Trump should continue to rebuild our military so we can meet the military challenges in the world, preserve our national security and keep the peace.

P.S. President Trump, please stop your unpresidential tweets and concentrate on the important matters, which impact our national security and our economy.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH