Temple Street speaks out
Some residents say they did not want Suffolk to leave historic hill

Suffolk mourns loss of life cut short, again

Suffolk's tuition hike continues up the hill of higher education
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 supplementalations 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 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."

One student, SGA Senator Jonathan McTague, a government and economics major, echoed that although the tuition hike is inevitable and is happy with the results that have been welcomed on campus, McTague said in an interview with The Journal late Tuesday night he would be personally happy with an increase of student aid should be implemented to combat the rising tuition cost not of Suffolk, but across the country. He said the benefits from having paid Suffolk's tuition price have shown in the form of the 30 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 at 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 for the future 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 to actually fulfilling the projects in the process of completing, as well as the plans that have been proposed in the strategic plan.

"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

Connect with Chris by emailing cdegusto@suffolk.edu.

Community remembers Suffolk soul after unexpected loss

From ANDREWS page 1

in such a short time, it was unbelievable, she was like little sisters. We joked around, we'd sing "joked around, we'd sing "supplementations of increasing tuition. Treasurer Laura Sander 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 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."

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Protestors sweep through Downtown against Trump

Felicity Otterbein
Arts Editor

Protestors 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 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 benefiting 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. It'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 MAP, 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.
Flood in 10 West leaves some misplaced, others return back to their original dormitories

Kyle Crosier
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 were 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 Staroldi said that talking to the workers, "gave us the updates we weren't getting from ResLife.

Issues did arise 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 you to get back into your room as quickly as possible and that requires some compliance on your end.”

In an interview with The Journal, sophomore Jillian Hansan 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.

Michael Kanra, a resident of room 214, was lucky enough to be asked to stay incidentally with his roommate from the 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, Hansan 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.

Some Beacon Hill residents not confident with new neighbors

From TEMPLE page 1

The Dedham, MA company JMDM Owner LLC, an affiliate of Center Court Properties, purchased Suffolk's former properties for $63 million in November 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, JMDM, 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 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's penthouses have made many residents worry about the cast shadows that are not currently there.

JMDM, 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 reviewing 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 Beacon Hill Civic Association and the Northeast Slope Neighborhood Association. "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 in their effort to save the house from being torn down to make way for the Donahue building.

Traffic that it has today by The woman said that it was a shame when they left, with the influx of traffic.

Connect with Kyle by emailing kcrosier@suffolk.edu.
Professor takes hard look at Israeli journalism

Amy Koczera
Journal Staff

Throughout these past 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-1960’s. Suffolk University Professor of Communication and Journalism, Shoshana Madmoni-Gerber held a seminar in the Poetry Garden 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, “Israel 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 992 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 this to be a significant lack of information, as the government equated censorship with 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 connected this theory, although there is a significant lack of information, is that the government was part of the President 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 he 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 was enough to go to war? The United States. Trump’s decision to intervene in Syria directly contradicts the lonely position, America’s first sentiment that he has maintained thus far. This is why it’s imperative to keep an immediate cause-and-effect of the missile attack.

For Assad and the Syrian Government, the destruction of one of their airfields is a small victory, probably just a part of what it seemed to be. The Al Shayrat Airfield can, and will be rebuilt. The true test of Trump’s commitment to Syria will be on display in the upcoming months.

Connect with Amy by emailing akoczera@suffolk.edu.

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Students send aid home

Venezuelan citizens have faced an oppressive military dictatorship since 2014, enduring a humanitarian crisis characterized by shortages of basic necessities, including food, medicine, and water. The situation has been compounded by the economic collapse of Venezuela, leading to widespread poverty and suffering.

As a result, the Venezuelan Student Union (VSU) has been working to provide humanitarian aid to Venezuela, with a focus on sending medical supplies to help those in need. The club started with a relatively new group here at Suffolk, their primary goal being 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. "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."

"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."

"We started this campaign to provide 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 medications."

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. If this is successful, they hope to continue the activity in the future. "We'd like to have as many members as possible so that we can help Venezuela as much as possible," said Palmisano.

"The decision to call "hands off" on Syria was defensible, the U.S. president's approval ratings have increased, and a significant number 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 for the Syrian airfield, sweet revenge was in the air and Americans that watch knew that Assad got the intoxicating hit of patriotic dopamine that the country was desperately longing for.

The problem is, Assad's chemical attack, that is all it was a display, 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 people 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 was, put simply, wrong.

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

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 words 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 audience by gracefully slipping into Orlando's limbs and nimbly navigated the set to assist with the story telling.

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

Orlando sitting amongst chorus members acting out the limbs of an oak tree, the subject of Orlando's acclaimed poem.
"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-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 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 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. Rogers portrayed 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. 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 as 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. The Suffoik Journal.

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 Abramo joined as their bassist, the band became more serious. They recorded their debut album "Animal" 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 Abramo.

Soon after Zachary McDonald joined as their drummer, and 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.

By Twitter user @Vundabar_band

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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 one 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 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.

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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.

Connect with Patrick by emailing pholmes2@suffolk.edu
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.

Maintenance struggles to keep up

Kyle Crozier
Journal Staff

Many students living on campus come to a university with the dream 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 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 clogged 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 frustrating minutes, before I decide to try another exit. The first warning from Suffolk that 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 more 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.

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 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 shrunk from a high of 570,000 soldiers after Sept. 11, and it is heading down to 450,000. The Marine Corps are going from 184,000 to 175,000 and the National Guard and Reserves will lose tens of thousands.

The Air Force will have 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. The Navy should not buy new aircraft carriers as it continues to threaten Europe.

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

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

President Trump, please stop your unpresidential tweets and concentrate on the issues that can impact our national security and our economy.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH