

For Faculty and Staff

June 17, 2025



### Challenging Students with the Power of Positive Psychology

Every time Patrick Murphy walks into a classroom he's trying to be what Robert Blubaugh was for him as a student—the teacher who sparked a life and eventually a career.

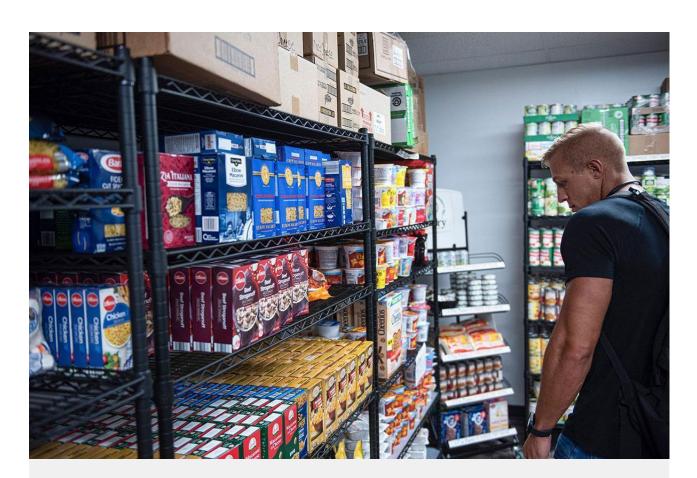
When his high school offered a psychology course for the first time in years, Murphy was a senior in a small Indiana farming community. An admitted middling student who often sat in the back row and wondered if anyone noticed him, Murphy achieved perfect scores on nearly every test in Blubaugh's class. Expecting a life as a laborer like almost everyone else in the town, Murphy was captivated by the subject, not just intellectually, but in a way that spoke to a deeper yearning for something more.

Now an assistant professor of psychology, Murphy, B.A. '16, focuses his research on positive

psychology and upward mobility in American society, while emphasizing growth mindset in his classes. After all, as he was back in the day, his students may not have a good realization of what they are capable of, especially if someone doesn't lead and push them to find out. Like Blubaugh, he's exposing them to something they may not know, and at the same time, teaching them how to challenge their boundaries.

Sometimes that means challenging students with high expectations, guiding them to the obstacle, and then helping them find the motivation to step over it and grow.

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# University Pantry Remains Open on Thursdays during the Summer

While heading to the grocery to stock up for July 4 cookoffs, maybe consider helping the Purdue University Fort Wayne pantry as well.

Though the pantry located in the Cole Clubhouse in Student Housing on the Waterfield Campus is closed for the summer, the Walb Student Union location in Room G36 continues to be open Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hours are subject to change throughout the year to accommodate campus holidays.

Started in 2017 with help from FRIENDS of the University, the pantry is stocked with a variety of frozen, packaged, and canned goods, along with hygiene products. There is also a **list of preferred donations**, and reusable grocery bags are always appreciated.

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# Good to Know

#### Fidelity Is Coming to Campus July 8, 9, 10

Andy Marsh, retirement advisor from Fidelity, is coming back to campus and will meet with employees in a private space in Kettler Hall, Room G97, (next to Einstein Bros. Bagels) on July 8 and in Helmke Library, Room 112, on July 9 and 10. Available time slots go very quickly, and once the appointments are all filled, openings on the scheduling calendar will no longer be visible. **View this flyer** for more information and a link to schedule an appointment. Virtual and phone appointments are also available throughout the month by choosing those options instead of inperson.

# Prospective Mastodons to Watch Fort Wayne Football Club's Match Tomorrow

More than 150 future and prospective Purdue University Fort Wayne students and their parents will have a unique experience on Wednesday. After participating in an information session, Q&A panel, and guided tour of campus, they will travel to the Fort Wayne Football Club's match against division-rival Lexington SC. The activity, which is being organized by the Office of Admissions, includes a pregame gathering with PFW alumni.

# On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

#### **New Hires**

Melvin Johnson, custodian | Building Services

# In a Snap

Seen and noted around campus. Monitor our university social feeds for more great moments of Mastodon life.



Players, coaches, and staff run the drills with the kids at the Jon Coffman Basketball Kids Camp, held in the fieldhouse last week.

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