



Fresh Ideas Brings New Flavor to Campus Meals

After Todd McCrory became director of dining services for Fresh Ideas Food at Purdue University Fort Wayne in the summer of 2024, he set out to wipe their operations clean like a freshly scrubbed counter. He dislikes the word “change,” but is always looking for opportunities to “improve.”

“You have to have the right set of eyes,” McCrory said. “You walk around a kitchen, see a problem, and take care of it.”

It may some days feel like all he’s done over the last year is take care of those opportunities, but McCrory and his staff continue to introduce their modifications. They’ve been working hard to figure out what works, which means returning students should already be noticing the improvements.

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HTM Hosting Panel Discussion on Upcoming Sitting Volleyball World Cup

The Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Purdue Fort Wayne will host a panel discussion from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday exploring the business aspects of Fort Wayne hosting the World ParaVolley Sitting Volleyball World Cup. That event is scheduled for Oct. 12–18 on the Turnstone campus, 3320 N. Clinton St.

Wednesday's discussion will take place in PFW's Liberal Arts Building, Room 159. It's expected to include at least 200 students from the freshman-level intro to business course in the university's Doerner School of Business. There will be approximately 100 seats remaining for others who want to attend.

The panel will include Jazmin Zavala, sports sales manager of Visit Fort Wayne; Reggie Beer, sport event coordinator for tournament host Turnstone; Steve Florio, PFW women's volleyball coach; and Cami Wood, a Blackhawk Christian High School volleyball player, adaptive athlete, and

national team player.

PFW's Florio also has extensive experience with the United States Sitting Volleyball Team since 2015.

The discussion will include the economic and community impact of accessible sports tourism on Fort Wayne and other business aspects. This year's world cup will welcome more than 500 athletes from 21 countries.

Share the story:



Flu Shots for Employees Offered on Campus Sept. 30

On-campus **seasonal flu shots** for employees will be available Sept. 30 from 7 to 11 a.m. in Walb Student Union, Room 222. Flu shots will be administered by One to One Health team members from the **Center for Healthy Living**.

The vaccine will be provided at no charge to all benefits-eligible employees, spouses, and dependents over age 18, and retirees on the Purdue health plan, as well any Indiana University Fort Wayne faculty and staff who would like one. Employees must present their PFW or IUFW ID.

Can't make it on Sept. 30? Flu shots are covered on Purdue's health plan at 100%. Appointments can be made with the Center for Healthy Living by calling 765-494-0111 or via a primary care physician's office or in-network pharmacy.



Cultural Awareness Training for Staff Members

In partnership with the Office of International Education, join Suin Roberts, associate professor of German, for an insightful workshop specifically designed for PFW and IUFW staff members who engage with students from diverse cultural backgrounds—international students, first- or second-generation immigrants—and/or colleagues from all over the world.

Through lecture-style learning, group discussion, and hands-on activities, this session will focus on bringing cultural awareness into the classroom and office while creating an inclusive space of belonging for all. Certificates are awarded upon completion.

The training session will be Oct. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon in the IDEASpace at Helmke Library. Light breakfast and refreshments will be provided. Space is limited to 40 people and registration is required. **[Register here.](#)**



Draft a Will for Free Oct. 20 and 22

For more than 15 years, Purdue Fort Wayne has offered free support during Write-a-Will Week to members of the community. It's a chance to ensure that wishes are honored and families are provided for and protected.

This year, Josh White of Barnes & Thornburg will provide free sessions on Oct. 20 and 22 at the Steel Dynamics Keith E. Busse Mastodon Alumni Center on PFW's West Campus.

Time slots fill up quickly and are on a first-come, first-served basis. To schedule an appointment, contact Eve Colchin, director of development, at eve.colchin@pfw.edu.

Eventful

There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. To find your favorites—or discover new activities—check the full [events calendar](#) often to see what's happening on campus.

SEPTEMBER

The Love Talker

In a small, isolated house surrounded by a dark forest deep in the

26

Sept. 26, 27 & Oct. 2,3,4
8 p.m.
Sept. 28, 2 p.m.

Appalachian Mountains, two orphaned sisters live alone in this cautionary, coming-of-age fable reminiscent of the Brothers Grimm and Stephen King...

SEPTEMBER

30

Tues. and Wed.
8 to 10 p.m.

Tape

A compelling one-act play by Stephen Belber, "Tape" pulls audiences into a tense, unforgettable reunion between three high school friends. As accusations surface and hidden truths unravel, the play masterfully explores loyalty, guilt, and the blurry line between perception and reality...

On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

New Hires

- Victoria Baumgartner, administrative assistant-senior | College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science
- Lindsey Eggold, career counselor | Career Development Center
- Haden Insley, custodian | Building Services

Transfers

- Rhylan Cantrell, project manager-associate | Facilities Management
- Ayesha Squires, associate director of training outreach | Division of Continuing Studies

In a Snap

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



Music therapy student Emma Keeling was among the participants on Wednesday at Purdue Fort Wayne's Constitution Day observance, a national event marking the original document's ratification. Other activities in the Classic Ballroom at Walb Student Union included a choir performance, a reading of the Constitution, a trivia contest, a panel of political science faculty, and a costume contest.

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



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