



For Students

October 15, 2025



The Two Mackenzies: Surreal Sisterhood Destined from Day 1

While meeting three years ago during new student orientation, Mackenzie Nord and Mackenzie Downs thought it was unique that both their first names were spelled with a lowercase k. Little did they know that this was just the start of their uncanny connections.

One of their mothers was determined to use an uncommon spelling, while the other's father filled in the birth certificate after her mother delivered by an emergency cesarean section. The latter was originally supposed to be spelled McKenzie.

It also turned out the duo were planning on majoring in communication sciences and disorders as they started their first semester at Purdue University Fort Wayne.

But wait, there's more!

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Craft Club Knitting Together Successful Start at PFW

Interest in crafting exploded during the height of the pandemic as homebound students tried to find interesting ways to fill time. They continue to create crafts, which is the impetus behind PFW's new **Crafts Club** student organization.

The cost to join the club is \$5 per semester, which goes mostly toward supplies. The club can be emailed at craftclub@pfw.edu for followed on Instagram @PFWCraftClub for meeting locations. Upcoming sessions scheduled for Liberal Arts, Room 35-C include a Shrinky-Dink Halloween movie night on Nov. 7, trinket box decorating on Nov. 28, and last-minute Christmas gifts on Dec. 5.

There are already plans in place for every meeting through the middle of the spring semester. Sharp's living room is covered with supplies she'd like to bring to campus. Any skill level is encouraged and welcomed.

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Registration Open for Fifth Year of Adopt-a-Don Program

Santa is coming soon, and the chance to ask him for help is growing short. Purdue University Fort Wayne's Adopt-a-Don program to help students with families is evolving for the 2025 holiday season.

Entering its fifth year, the **Adopt-a-Don** program has raised more \$40,000 in donations to buy Christmas presents for students with families, including \$8,000 last year for 32 families. Along with food from the FRIENDS of the University Pantry, the gifts are bagged and handed out at the annual Jingle Jubilee dinner, which will be held Dec. 6 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.

Students can **register to participate** before Oct. 24 and see the list of requirements. Those selected will be notified by Nov. 3. This year's event is expanding to include eligible Indiana University Fort Wayne Red Foxes.

There's also a place for those wishing to **donate to participate**, with suggested guidelines.

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Reminder: Changes to VPN Access and Microsoft 365 Account

Purdue IT is migrating all Purdue Fort Wayne users to a unified Microsoft 365 tenant beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday. Users must disconnect from VPN and log out of all Microsoft 365 applications before this time. Please reference recent IT Announcement emails sent by the IT Services Help Desk for details.

For live updates, [visit this page](#).

The Purdue Fort Wayne service desk team may also be contacted at helpdesk@pfw.edu or 260-481-6030. The migration is expected to be finished no later than Monday. Users will be notified when migration is complete.

Good to Know

Bookstore Closed for Inventory Oct. 21

The Mastodon Campus Store will be closed all day for its annual inventory count Tuesday (Oct. 21). Regular hours will resume Oct. 22.

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.

OCTOBER

16

ETCS Next Generation Networking

This drop-in event is to informally network with the local companies interested in learning more about you and your major. Feel free to ask

Thurs., 11:30 a.m.–1
p.m.

questions about the company, job opportunities, or the industry...

OCTOBER

16

Thurs., 7:30–9:30
p.m.

PFW Bands Opening Concert

Join the PFW Bands for the exciting consortium premieres of works by Benjamin Dean Taylor and a wonderful work by composer-in-residence Gala Flagello...

OCTOBER

17

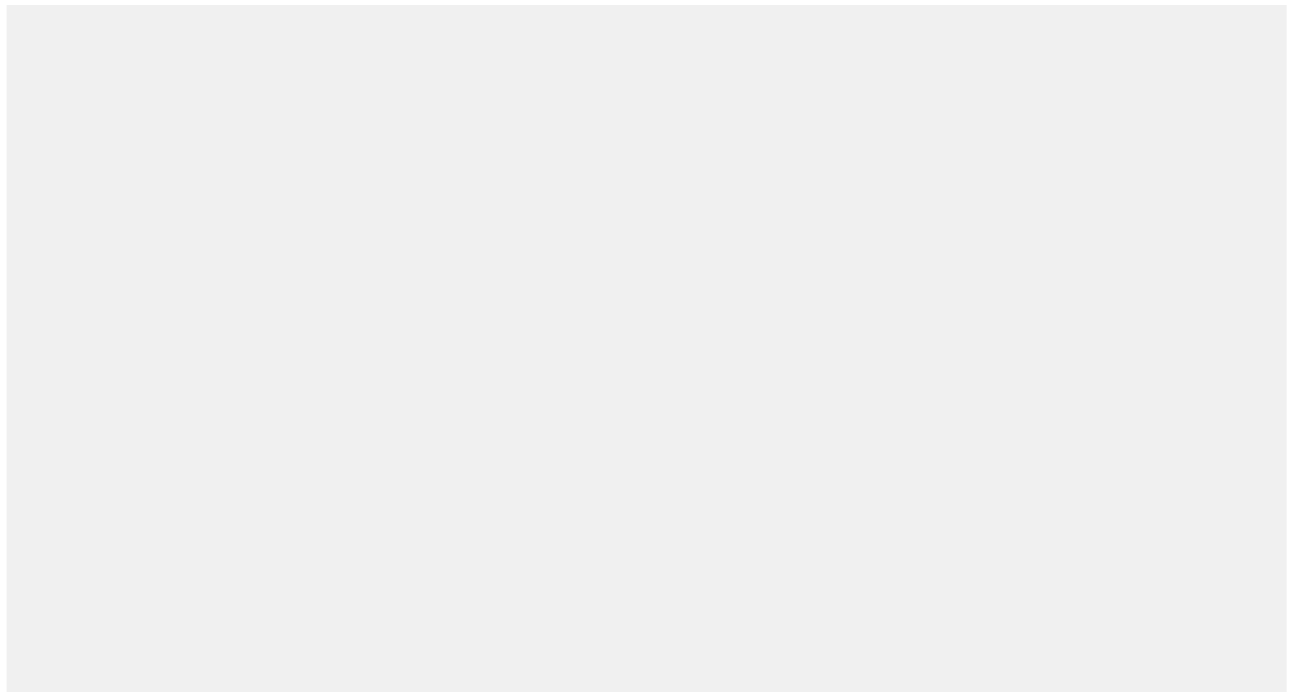
Fri., 3–5 p.m.

FAFSA Completion Event

Stop by to get personalized support, ensure your FAFSA is filed accurately, and set yourself up for success. Don't miss this opportunity to make the most of your financial aid options—your future self will thank you...

Mastodon Moments

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





The Student Activities Board handed out bags of customized PFW M&Ms on Monday, which was National M&M Day. The event was also intended to draw attention to Pink Out and breast cancer awareness. Several Paint the Campus Pink events have been scheduled this month, including a women's volleyball Pink Out game benefitting the Vera Bradley Foundation on Friday.

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