



For Students

October 22, 2025



Family Day This Weekend Looks to Capitalize on Shift in Seasons

Hoping to take advantage of better weather, Purdue University Fort Wayne has moved its Family Day for students to the fall semester. The on-campus event will take place Saturday. Last year's gathering was held Feb. 24 inside Lutheran Health Fieldhouse, but the new date was chosen to offer more outside activities.

"This provides an opportunity and a space for all families to get back together, see where their students are, and check in on them," said Giang Petroviak, executive director of student success initiatives. "It's just about having that time for our students to see their parents and siblings again."

The festivities start at 9 a.m. with the **Campus United 5K** to benefit the FRIENDS of the University Pantry. That's followed by the Family Day celebration in the green space located east of Helmke Library and north of parking garage P1. Highlights of the event will include food trucks,

inflatable games, tie-dye shirts, and various vendors. The first 100 families to register will receive \$20 in food vouchers.

[READ MORE](#)

Share the story:



Gold Top Performer's Approach Leads to Top-Tier Songs

Whenever Noah Sties sits down with a goal of writing his next song, he can stare at the blank paper with the best of them without coming up with a single lyric or note. His writing muscle just doesn't work that way.

But at other times his subconscious kicks into a gear where it's hard for him to write everything down.

"I have a note in my phone called 'One liners,'" the Purdue University Fort Wayne senior says. "That's just all sorts of bits of choruses and everything else that I think of while driving or in the shower. I have an ongoing joke with my parents that I don't think I've ever written a song out that wasn't finished in the shower. That's one of the only places I can write, which is really funny."

[READ MORE](#)

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Registration for Spring Classes Starts Monday

Early registration for Purdue Fort Wayne's spring 2026 semester starts next week—another major step students will take toward their degree. This process is a great way to secure the classes and times needed well ahead of the new term.

For the next four Mondays, early registration opens at 8 a.m. for these groups:

- Oct. 27: Degree candidates, graduate students, seniors, and military affiliate
- Nov. 3: Juniors, honors students, student-athletes, and students with disabilities
- Nov. 10: Sophomores
- Nov. 17: Freshmen and others

Students are strongly encouraged to connect with their advisor to ask questions and make sure everything is still on track.



PFW Seeks Strong Showing in Annual U Can Crush Hunger Drive

Community Harvest Food Bank's annual "U Can Crush Hunger" campaign among eight northeast Indiana universities runs Oct. 27–Nov. 7. The competition is based on the pounds of canned food donated, though money is also accepted. PFW finished second last year with 20,118 pounds donated, which was more than 16% of the 123,034 pounds gathered overall.

Options for donating:

- Place nonperishable food items in the donation bins located on the first-floor Herd Hideout hallway in Walb Student Union. These items will help stock **The FRIENDS of the University Pantry**.
- Make a secure donation online through the **Community Harvest Food Bank** by selecting Purdue Fort Wayne. Each dollar donated is enough to purchase four pounds of food. Online donations collected through this option will be divided in half between the Pantry and the Community Harvest Food Bank Farm Wagon program.

The pantry at PFW serves approximately 9,000 visitors each academic year. Funding is not supported by the university, and the budget fluctuates annually.

Share the story:





Mastodon Men's Hoops Slate Tips Off Monday vs. Ball State at Gates

Come out Monday to support the PFW men's basketball team as they open their 2025–26 season against Ball State at 7 p.m. in the Gates Sports Center. And make sure to join The Herd, PFW's official student hype team! Email PFWHerd@pfw.edu to get involved.

As a special incentive, the first 100 students arriving at the game on Monday will receive a free black PFW T-shirt and free pizza. Show up and support the Dons!

Good to Know

Andrea Mitchell Omnibus Series Visit Canceled

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Andrea Mitchell's Nov. 18 Omnibus Speaker Series presentation at Purdue University Fort Wayne has been canceled. For more information on the current season, [click here](#).

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Is Saturday

The next prescription drug take-back day sponsored by the Purdue University Fort Wayne Police Department is scheduled for Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For added convenience, participants

can remain in their vehicles as they drive around the front circle drive at Kettler Hall, outside door #1, which faces the Anthony Boulevard entrance to the Main Campus.

Click [here](#) to read about PFW's permanent drop-off location.

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

23

Thurs., 7:30–0:30
p.m.

Guest Artist Recital: Jake Workman, Guitar

Jake Workman, the 2020 International Bluegrass Music Association Guitarist of the Year and guitarist for Grammy Award-winning band Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder, comes to Purdue Fort Wayne for a night of high-energy Bluegrass music...

OCTOBER

24

Fri., 4–7 p.m.

College of Liberal Arts Oktoberfest

It's time to mix, mingle, and celebrate at the College of Liberal Arts Oktoberfest! Current juniors and seniors—this is your golden ticket to build connections with alumni and faculty who've walked the path before you...

OCTOBER

29

Wed., 2–5 p.m.

Invasive Plant Removal Day

Help restore the natural PFW riverfront habitat. The Environmental Resources Center is clearing invasive honeysuckle on campus so that native species can flourish...

Mastodon Moments

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



Visitors to Kettler Hall's main lobby can view four refreshed display cases that illustrate what life at Purdue Fort Wayne has to offer.

Athletics



Events Calendar



News Center



Don Life Archive



Don Life is an official university communication sent weekly on Wednesday to all currently enrolled students. Don Life Special Edition is a supplement to the regularly scheduled newsletter. It covers breaking news and time-sensitive information directly related to university operations.

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