



Help Recognize Those Who Serve on Thursday

The fifth annual “Serving Those Who Serve” at Purdue University Fort Wayne will be held Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union. Sponsored by the Center for Veteran and Military Student Success, the event honors members of the campus community who are veterans and those in service-oriented degree programs or professions such as first response, social work, criminal justice, healthcare, and education.

The activities Thursday will include lunch, interactive craft stations, giveaways, and massages. They are open to all students, faculty, and staff.

“This special event is a heartfelt thank you to all of our service-oriented community members for their positive impact in the past, present, and future,” said Nicole Welsh, senior compliance officer in the **Center for Veteran and Military Student Success**.

The center works with more than 200 students with military backgrounds who are taking classes at PFW and estimates there could be another 200 on campus. It recently moved to Room 120 at Walb.

In July, PFW was recognized by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education and the state's Department of Veterans Affairs as a Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana recipient. This initiative recognizes eligible postsecondary institutions that have successfully demonstrated a supportive environment for their U.S. military-affiliated student populations, from applications to graduation.



PFW Leading the Way in U Can Crush Hunger Campaign

With a week remaining in the annual U Can Crush Hunger campaign, Purdue University Fort Wayne leads the field—by a wide margin. But that's no reason to stop now!

This drive to fight hunger across northeast Indiana is hosted by the Community Harvest Food Bank. It's also a good-natured competition among eight local colleges and universities, based on pounds of canned goods collected. Monetary donations are also accepted; \$1 equals four pounds. The 2025 campaign concludes Friday.

As of the first weigh-in results, PFW had accumulated 27,336 pounds, compared to Indiana Tech's 12,044, and Indiana University Fort Wayne's 10,172.

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Reminders about Campus Operations during Severe Weather

As northeast Indiana enters into the winter months—and throughout the entire year—existing and predicted weather conditions are carefully evaluated by the Office of the Chancellor and Facilities Management to help ensure the health and safety of the members of the campus community.

In these instances, the chancellor or his designee may declare a windchill, snow, or ice emergency for the Purdue Fort Wayne campus. This decision process includes coordination with the Allen County Department of Homeland Security, the City of Fort Wayne, and area school systems.

Declarations of this nature and other emergencies are communicated as quickly as possible, with the intention of sharing decisions that may impact classes and/or university operations by 6 a.m. on the day they will apply. When windchill, snow, or ice emergencies are declared, the following means of communicating with the campus community may be utilized:

- PFW emails
- PFW text alert system
- PFW Guardian app
- PFW Digital Display Network
- Posting of announcements to the university's website and via its social media channels
- Notification of local broadcast media

Remember, a closed campus does not necessarily mean classes are canceled or that assignments and tests are postponed. All classes capable of meeting online or scheduled to meet online are expected to continue uninterrupted. Instructors should review class policies with their students

and communicate expectations (refer to **Office of Academic Affairs Memorandum 21-01** for guidance). Students are encouraged to track the status of their classes in Brightspace or Canvas (IUFW only).

One Week Left in Open Enrollment

Benefits eligible faculty and staff can access their enrollment profile in BenefitFocus for Open Enrollment until 6 p.m. on Nov. 11 at **one.purdue.edu**; look for the “Benefits Enrollment—Active” tile.

During 2026 Open Enrollment, employees MUST:

- Complete the tobacco survey*
- Complete the working spouse certification*
- Re-enroll/re-elect contributions to HSA, HRA, and/or FSA for 2026; these contributions do not automatically continue into the next year.

*Completing these steps ensures that enrollees pay the correct premium for 2026, as premiums are allocated depending on tobacco-user status and spousal coverage. If no tobacco status is denoted, employees are defaulted to a tobacco-user rate. Additionally, if a spousal waiver form is required and not uploaded by the Dec. 1 deadline, employees will pay the higher working spouse rate.

Both Amy Jagger, benefits director, and Tiffany Davis, HR generalist, are offering one-on-one sessions in-person and virtually to answer questions and provide help.

Set up a meeting with Jagger using **Calendly**. To meet with Davis, email **davis444@pfw.edu**.

The **Open Enrollment Resources** page on the Purdue benefits website houses videos, learning opportunities, information on additional benefits, education forms, and guides to help you prepare for enrollment. A recorded Open Enrollment presentation is available **here**.

General questions? Contact Jagger at **anjagger@pfw.edu** or Davis.

Fundraiser at Blaze Pizza on Wednesday to Benefit APSAC

Thinking of lunch plans for tomorrow? APSAC has a dine and donate fundraiser with Blaze Pizza, 401 E. Coliseum Blvd., from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. **Present this flyer** at the store or **order online** using the code FUNDA.

Funds raised will be used in one of two ways—towards the APSAC scholarship for staff members with students at PFW or the APSAC Professional Development Support Fund. The steering

committee is striving to rebuild these funds so staff can benefit from them again in the future.

Upcoming Holiday, Recess Dates

The remaining fiscal year 2025–26 holiday and recess dates for employees of Purdue University Fort Wayne are:

- Thursday–Friday, Nov. 27–28 | Thanksgiving Break
- Wednesday–Thursday, Dec. 24–25 | Christmas Holiday
- Dec. 26–31, 2025 | Winter Recess*
- Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026 | New Year's Day
- Friday, Jan. 2, 2026 | President's Designated Holiday
- Monday, Jan. 19, 2026 | Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Monday, May 25, 2026 | Memorial Day

*The winter recess was approved by the Purdue University Board of Trustees at its February meeting.

On the Job

Check out the new faces in new places.

New Hires

- Elizabeth Jolly, senior library assistant
| Helmke Library
- Christine Loolo, custodian | Building Services
- Neal Michaelson, custodian | Building Services
- William Quick, maintenance mechanic
| Operations and Maintenance

Transfers

- Khin Khin Gyi, director of testing services and academic affairs initiatives | Academic Affairs
- Matthew Lennon, construction observer | Facilities Management

In a Snap

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



Despite the chilly weather, Halloween spirit was alive and well at the annual Campus United 5K on Oct. 25. Proceeds and donations from the event will support the FRIENDS of the University Pantry.

News Center



Inside PFW Archive



Athletics



Ripples



Inside PFW is an official university communication for faculty and staff. All submissions should be sent to **inside@pfw.edu** no later than 2 p.m. on the day prior to the next edition to be considered for inclusion. Newsletter guidelines can be accessed in the PFW **News Center**.

Inside PFW is produced twice weekly on Tuesday and Thursday by the Office of Communications and Marketing. *Inside PFW 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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