

For Faculty and Staff October 27, 2026



PFW Invites Campus Community to Help Crush Hunger Through Annual Food Drive Competition

Purdue University Fort Wayne is once again teaming up with colleges and universities across northeast Indiana to tackle food insecurity through the annual **U Can Crush Hunger food drive**. Running Oct. 26 through Nov. 6, the friendly competition challenges campuses to collect nonperishable food items and monetary donations to support students, individuals, and families facing hunger throughout the region.

Now in its 12th year, U Can Crush Hunger brings together seven institutions: Purdue Fort Wayne, Indiana Tech, Indiana University Fort Wayne, Ivy Tech Community College, Manchester University, Trine University, and the University of Saint Francis. Organizers hope to collect a combined 125,000 pounds of food and donations during the two-week campaign.

At PFW, students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to donate nonperishable food items and toiletries in Walb Student Union outside of the Herd Hideout or make monetary contributions throughout the campaign. Donations collected through the drive on campus will stay right here to stock **The FRIENDS of the University Pantry**, directly supporting our students and campus community.

READ MORE



Mastodons Host Boilermakers in Front of More Than 10,000 Fans

In front of a crowd of over 10,000, the Purdue Fort Wayne men's basketball team played host to the Purdue Boilermakers in an exhibition contest at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Thursday, Oct. 22.

The 10,141-strong crowd was the second-best for a Mastodon game in program history and the best ever in an exhibition contest. Purdue topped the Mastodons 92–62.

READ MORE

2027 Benefits Open Enrollment Begins Today

Benefits open enrollment is now open and closes at 6 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Nov. 10. Faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to review their options and actively enroll in benefits for 2027. The health benefits you select will remain in effect throughout 2027 unless you experience a qualifying life event. Take time now to review your coverage and choose the options that best meet your needs.

LEARN MORE

Hear from Devon Clunis, Canada's First Black Police Chief

Join us for an inspiring conversation with Devon Clunis, who made history in 2012 as Canada's first Black police chief when he was appointed to lead the Winnipeg Police Service. Clunis later served as Ontario's inaugural Inspector General of Policing and now works as an international consultant, speaker, author, and leadership practitioner. He will share insights from his career and his people-first approach to leadership, community well-being, and unity in diversity. Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

LEARN MORE

PFW Athletics Hosts Track or Treat

Join PFW student-athletes on Oct. 31 for a fun, family-friendly Halloween event at the Lutheran Health Fieldhouse track in the Gates Sports Center. Track or Treat begins at 2:30 p.m., followed by PFW Women's Volleyball vs. IU Indy at 4 p.m.

Kids ages 12 and under who wear a costume receive free admission to the volleyball game, while parents and siblings over 12 can attend for just $6 per ticket. We hope to see you and your families there for a fun afternoon of



Halloween festivities and Mastodon volleyball!

Registration for Spring Classes Starts This Week

Early registration for Purdue Fort Wayne's spring 2026 semester opened Monday, Oct. 26, for degree candidates, graduate students, seniors, and military affiliates—another major step toward their degrees. This process lets students secure the classes and times they need well before the new term.

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

- Nov. 2: Juniors, honors students, student-athletes, and students with disabilities
- Nov. 9: Sophomores
- Nov. 16: Freshmen and others

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

Good to Know

Main Campus Sidewalk Repairs Oct. 30–Nov. 4

Sidewalk repairs will take place throughout Main Campus from Oct. 30 through Nov. 4. Various portions of pedestrian walkways may be temporarily restricted or rerouted during construction activities. Access to campus buildings will be maintained, though some locations may require alternate walking routes.

November Faculty and Staff Portrait Session

Faculty and staff who would like to have portraits taken may do so Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The photographer will be set up on the north end of the skybridge connecting Helmke Library and Walb Student Union.

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
28
Wed., 7:30–9 p.m.

Haunting Harmonies Orchestra Concert

Enjoy the first orchestra concert of the academic year as PFW Director of Keyboard Studies Hamilton Tescarollo performs Franz Liszt's *Totentanz* (Death Dance) with the orchestra. You'll also enjoy other haunted harmonies by composers Dvořák, Bizet, Offenbach, and Holst. Costumes encouraged...

OCTOBER
29
Thurs., 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

All healthy, eligible individuals are welcome to donate blood because the need for blood never goes away. Please bring your ID to your scheduled appointment and follow the day-of-donation guidelines. Those who register to donate will receive a $10 Amazon gift card...

OCTOBER
29, 30
Thurs. & Fri. 7 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 3 p.m.

Dido and Aeneas

Featuring six PFW students and the University Singers, in collaboration with company-in-residence Opera Today!, *Dido and Aeneas* tells the story of star-crossed lovers Dido, the Queen of Carthage, and Aeneas, a Trojan War hero. This tragic opera explores timeless themes of love, duty, fate,

and betrayal...

In a Snap

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



Purdue Fort Wayne Mastodon fans turned out in force for the men’s basketball game against Purdue University last week. The energetic crowd made it the second-highest-attended game in the history of the men’s program.

News Center

Inside PFW Archive

Athletics

Ripples