



PFW Turning to 'Fresh Ideas' for Dining Services

Please read carefully as the menu has changed.

That's right, dining services on the campus of Purdue University Fort Wayne underwent a passing of the spatula while students, faculty and staff were away for winter break. Food service management company **Fresh Ideas** now oversees daily operations including catering.

With an eye to the future that will ultimately include more user-friendly options such as mobile ordering and expanded grab-and-go choices at multiple locations, Fresh Ideas has been recruited to concentrate first and foremost on delivering an enhanced level of service for all patrons. Its vision to improve the overall culinary experience campus-wide will, as the name suggests, focus on fresh ideas and fresh food. Those objectives may sooner than later include more international and vegetarian selections.

The behind-the-scenes transition to Fresh Ideas began a few weeks back with a goal of it being seamless for anyone standing on the customer side of the counter. Hours of operation at all locations will also remain unchanged.

Be on the lookout in upcoming editions of *Inside PFW* for more information and specific details on “grand opening” events to welcome Fresh Ideas to campus and you to what it brings to the table.



Brace Yourself: Blizzard of Dons to Hit in a Few Weeks

Homecoming 2024—Blizzard of Dons—is on track to hit campus on Monday, Jan. 29. Forecast models are predicting with near certainty a weeklong festivity storm the likes of which Purdue Fort Wayne has rarely experienced. Each day calls for Mastodon volleyball and basketball games and fun events, such as a poster competition, craft night, casino night, ice skating, and a barbecue. And make room on your calendar for the Blizzard of Dons Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 5 p.m. in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union, hosted by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

But wait, there's more. Check out the tropical theme at a men's volleyball game and the lip-synching finals at a women's basketball game, which is just the tip of the iceberg ... sorry. Where will all this fun be? When will all this fun occur? Look no further than pfw.edu/homecoming for all the info. Throw on an extra scarf, call your friends, and get ready for the Blizzard of Dons!



Starting Over Helping Student and Family Succeed

Growing up in Noble County, best friends Phill Taner and Kevin Krock always had big dreams and told each other they'd know one of them made it when they purchased a pool table.

Krock, B.S. '19, reached the symbolic milestone first about three years ago, and Taner, B.A. '14, was there to help his buddy set up the table in the basement. At the time, Krock was working as a civil engineer and Taner as a server at a local restaurant. Both had started families of their own—Krock and his wife having three children, and Taner and his fiancé expecting their first of two. Knowing Taner was still searching for the right fit professionally, Krock encouraged his good friend to go back to school.

Starting in 2020, Taner has been pursuing his new-found passion to become a mechanical engineer while continuing to work at the restaurant on weekends to earn money. Along with classes at Purdue University Fort Wayne, he's pursuing internships and been elected vice president and treasurer for PFW's chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. There are also now two boys at home, and he's the College of Engineering, Technology, and Computer Science representative to the Student Government Association's Student Senate.

At age 33, he's busier with the new roles but also happier than ever.

[READ MORE](#)

Learn More about the CARE Team

New to Purdue University Fort Wayne? Unaware of the CARE Team and CARE referrals, or just want to learn more? Join the **Office of Student Conduct and Care** for a one-hour informational session that will provide an overview of what the CARE Team is, who sits on the team, and what happens after a referral is made.

- Online | Feb. 21, 11 a.m.–noon | via Teams
- In Person | March 14, 10–11 a.m. | Walb Student Union, Room 114

Sign up for a session by emailing PFWCARE@pfw.edu.

Important Honors Program Information

Each of these Honors Program deadlines is Jan. 26:

- **H-Option contracts:** Students should contact Farah Combs, program director, after they get the initial approval from their professor to start the contract.
- **Fall honors scholarship applications:** Begin the **application process** and access the information about the **different scholarships**. Students must have successfully completed at least 3 PFW honors credits to be eligible to apply for honors scholarships.
- **Honors project proposals:** Graduating seniors who are pursuing the honors certificate should start the **application process** to complete the form electronically. More information is available **here**.

Spring 2024 Honors Project Showcase presentations will be held in the Honors Center at Helmke Library, Room 211, on April 11 and 12.

Students who are planning to participate in the pinning ceremony should **submit their application** for the honors pin no later than Jan. 19. They must have already successfully completed 9 honors credits to be eligible for the pin.

Questions? Contact Combs at combsf@pfw.edu.

Featured Events

*There's always plenty to do at Purdue Fort Wayne. Some opportunities are exclusive to university employees and their families. Check the full **events calendar** often to see what's happening on campus.*

JANUARY

12

Fri., 6–8 p.m.

WellRec Curling Night

Join WellRec for a curling clinic with the Fort Wayne Curling Club. Space is limited, but there will be two sessions available, one starting at 6 p.m. and another at 7 p.m. This is a beginner-friendly event...

JANUARY

17

Wed., noon-1 p.m.

Employee Yoga: In-Person and Virtual Class

Yoga incorporates movement with deep breathing techniques to de-stress, maintain or develop good balance and flexibility for life. Don't fret if you can't do some of the poses at first, especially if you are a beginner. Health coach Lindsay Bloom offers variations of poses to match your level...

News Spotlight

A sampling of external news coverage of Purdue University Fort Wayne.

PFW sets up help sessions for FAFSA

The Journal Gazette (subscription required) | Jan. 4

PFW to help students and parents understand FAFSA changes

WANE 15 | Jan. 3

Expanding with intent

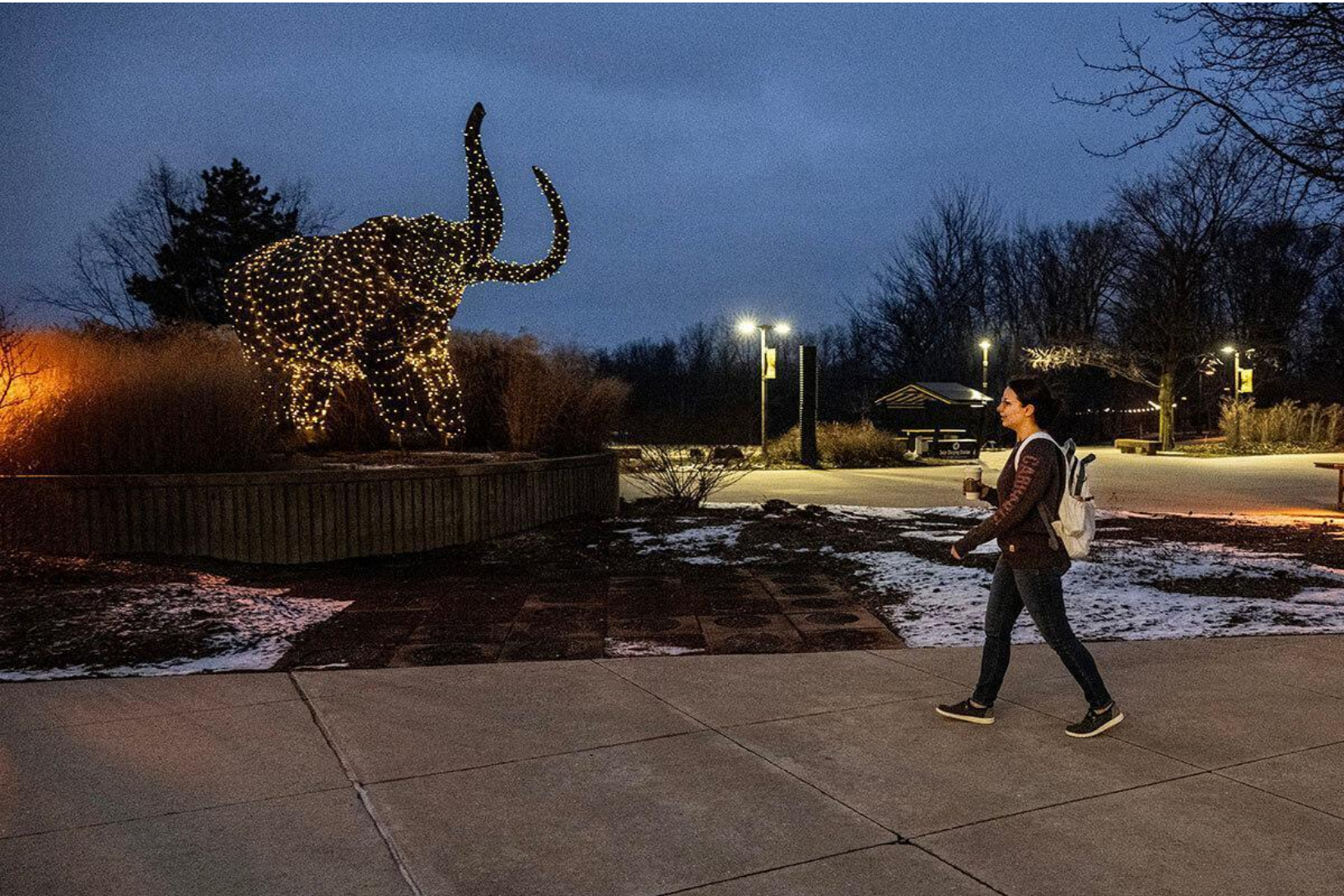
Business People magazine | Jan. 3

Fort Wayne economist weighs in on the impacts of Indiana's \$7.25 minimum wage

FOX 55 | Jan. 3

In a Snap

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



The first student of the first day of spring semester was sighted Monday strolling through Alumni Plaza at 7:40 a.m.

News Center



Events Calendar



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](#).

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