

donlife



For Students

August 28, 2024



New Chief of University Police Brings Big Heart to Campus

A significant addition to the Purdue University Fort Wayne team became official during the June 4 swearing-in of Anthony Harrison as chief of University Police. Harrison, a former Butler University senior patrol officer, replaces Tim Potts, who retired in January after six years as head of a 13-person staff.

One of the first things Harrison did on the job was describe how everyone plays a part in safety and security.

"If they see something that doesn't seem quite right, say something; let us know," Harrison said. "The biggest culture shift in public safety is it doesn't just fall under University Police. Public safety is part of the entire campus community."

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Tracey Hanton and Melody Monday in the Mastodon Career Closet.

Career Development Center Encourages Early Engagement for Optimum Results

It's reassuring to know that the **Career Development Center** team at Purdue University Fort Wayne consists of folks who earned degrees in various disciplines.

Jackie Stancil, executive director, started as a psychology major. Tracey Hanton, associate director, began studying international business with a minor in French. Melody Monday, one of the career counselors, majored in women's studies before earning a master's degree in counseling.

That makes them well-suited to help students who are confused, frustrated, and maybe lost on what to do next. This administrative unit's overall goal is to walk beside students so they may be empowered to develop their individual brands while also honing their skills to go through a successful job search.

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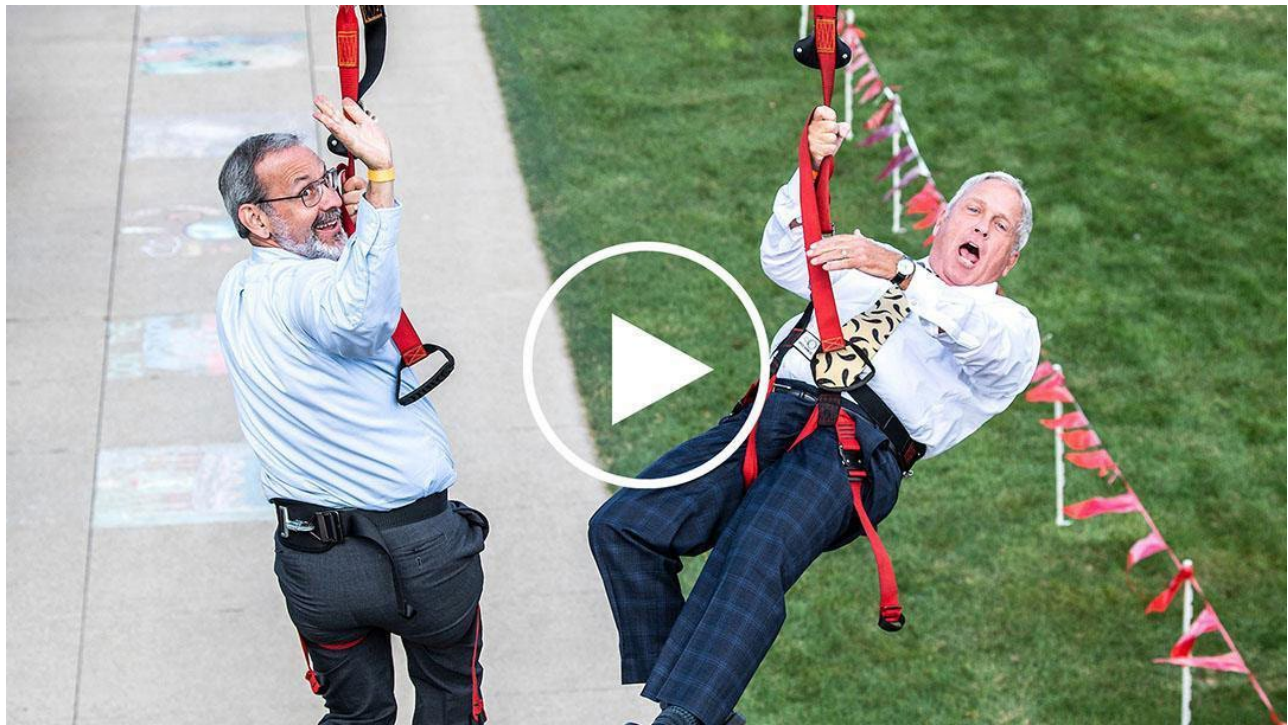
'Day on the River' Set for Thursday

The beauty of Purdue Fort Wayne's Main Campus is enhanced by its proximity to the St. Joseph River on its western edge. For the second time in as many years, PFW is inviting students, faculty, and staff to spend a "Day on the River" so they can enjoy all that this location has to offer.

This year's gathering will take place Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Much of the action will happen at the base of the Ron Venderly Family Bridge and parking lot 10.

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Deans and Dons on the Zipline: Popular Picnic Pastime Returns Tuesday

After a jam-packed first five days of the fall semester, students, faculty, and staff may need the upcoming Labor Day weekend to rest up. Once that box is checked, welcome back activities return for week two on Tuesday with the Dons' College Picnic from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Science Mall.

Besides showcasing the various academic opportunities on campus with food, giveaways, and a DJ supplied as incentives, the highlight of the day could be the return of ziplining after a one-year absence. This high-flying activity in the past has even featured a couple deans racing for bragging rights. Is there a rematch in the works?

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



PFW's 14th Center of Excellence Grew from a Surprising Start

A few weeks ago, the FIRST Molecules Research Center in the College of Science received noteworthy recognition when it became the 14th Center of Excellence at Purdue University Fort Wayne. However, the story behind the Fullertube Interdisciplinary Research Science and Technology—FIRST for short—Molecules Research Center that dates back to 2017 is even more remarkable.

Ryan Koenig was a 17-year-old junior at Concordia Lutheran High School who had just passed his Advanced Placement chemistry course when his teacher, Kyle Jane, received an email from PFW. The university was offering high school students an opportunity to take part in an intern program.

That's how Koenig met Steven Stevenson, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Was Koenig interested in a glorified job shadow, or did he want to be treated like a regular undergrad student and try his own research project? Koenig immediately wanted the latter, and Stevenson assigned him the task of trying to isolate C60 molecules from carbon soot.

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Mastodon Market Returns for Year 5

Part of what makes the Mastodon Market so popular is the variety of options to choose from. Open Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Sept. 19, the market is where students, employees, and community members can find vegetables, fruit, plants, desserts, and information. Live music and food trucks have also been featured in the past.

Starting its fifth year this week, vendors who will be setting up shop under the skybridge connecting Walb Student Union and Helmke Library include Honey Plant, The Wellness Barn, Hot Dog Boyz, and Homestead Herbal Wellness. Entertainment will be provided by The DeeBee's.

Click here to read more about the people who bring the market to life.

Progress Made on Coliseum Boulevard Project; Left Turn Lane Now Open

As of Wednesday morning, the left turn lane on eastbound Coliseum that frequently backs up early in the day has reopened.

The Indiana Department of Transportation is working on what it's calling deck overlay preventive maintenance to the Coliseum Boulevard bridge across the St. Joseph River, which is just west of

the Main Campus.

Crews will be closing lanes and diverting traffic on Coliseum in both directions throughout the project. Work is scheduled to last until Sept. 16, weather permitting. As the project moves to other stretches of road, it remains to be seen how that will impact traffic patterns.

Anyone looking to drive onto campus during this time may still need to adjust their schedules to reflect possible delays. If in doubt, the Crescent Avenue and St. Joe Road entrances are good alternatives for the time being.

Click here to view a campus map.



Adopt-a-Don

The **Adopt-a-Don** project is an assistance program that aids selected students and their families during the holiday season. Through this campaign, faculty, staff, campus departments, and/or students and student organizations are invited to assist recipients with toys, clothing, and household needs.

A maximum amount of \$250 is allowed per family for the 2024 campaign. Donated gifts and items should be unopened, bagged, and/or wrapped upon delivery. Gift cards are accepted.

Faculty, staff, campus departments, and/or student organizations can register to Adopt-a-Don

through Sept. 27. **Visit the website** for information about becoming an adopter or adoptee.

If you have questions, contact **women@pfw.edu**.

Good to Know

Honors Program Info Session Scheduled for Sept. 3

Get ready for a virtual information session about the Honors Program at Purdue Fort Wayne. This opportunity will be Sept. 3 from 10 to 10:30 am via WebEx. If you're curious about what the Honors Program has to offer, this session is perfect for you! To sign up, **follow this link**.

If you know someone who would be interested in exploring this opportunity, be sure to pass along the invitation.

Do You Need Financial Assistance for Child Care Costs?

The Choi-Frank Students as Parents Childcare Support Award offers assistance for current students who are experiencing financial difficulty in paying for child care while attending Purdue University Fort Wayne. This is for PFW students only. Visit **pfw.edu/women** to apply today. For questions, email **women@pfw.edu**.

60th Birthday Party Set for Sept. 26

The Office of Alumni Engagement will host a 60th birthday party for the university at the Steel Dynamics Keith E. Busse Mastodon Alumni Center on Sept. 26 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. There will be food trucks, lawn games, signature cocktails, birthday cake, and memorabilia from years past. Alumni, retirees, faculty, staff, students, community members, and friends of the university are invited. **Register here**.

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.*

AUGUST

Endorsed Information Session

Learn about Endorsed, a career readiness program, and how you can

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Thurs., 10 a.m.–noon

earn points, prizes, potential future elective credits, and most of all be career ready. This session is broken up into two parts...

AUGUST

29

Thurs., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Root Beer Social

Come enjoy a root beer float, some music, henna, caricatures, face painting, and a free beer stein at Waterfront Park. This event has been combined with Day on the River, so mark your calendar for this double event...

SEPTEMBER

3

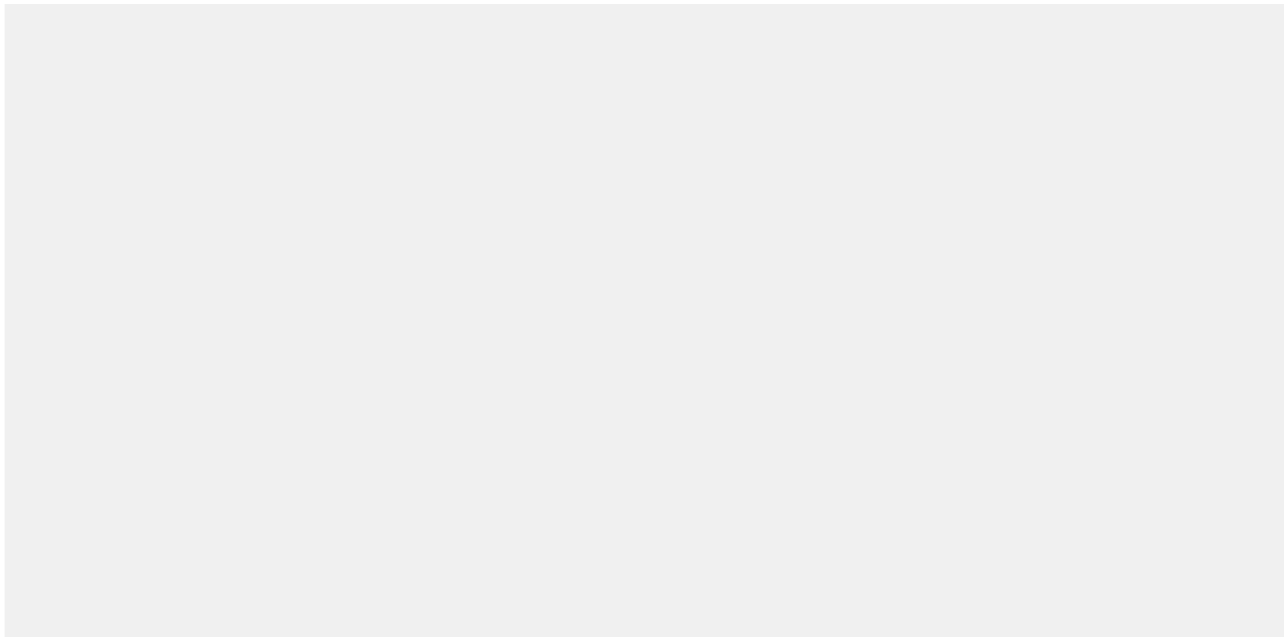
Tues., 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Dons' College Picnic

Support your college and enjoy free food and giveaways to the jams laid down by a local DJ. If you dare, you can zipline across the science mall...

Mastodon Moments

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





A fantastic way to get into the groove—and make new friends—is by enjoying a few of the kickoff activities planned over the next two weeks. On Monday, students gathered on the Science Mall for the first major event featuring food, freebies, and giant inflatables (above).

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