



For Students

November 13, 2024



*Emily Tock and Elizabeth Christian display children's books that are available for checkout via the 'Book Bundles' program at Helmke Library.*

## 'Book Bundles' Program Opens New Pages

A child's love of reading can start even before they can grab a book and crawl into a grandparent's lap, and the importance of early reading development continues growing in every educational evaluation. That's why Elizabeth Christian, assistant professor of education, and Emily Tock, information services librarian and assistant librarian, enhanced a Purdue University Fort Wayne guidance for young children course.

Christian and Tock connected over their love of children's reading materials. That shared interest now helps Christian's students take advantage of a resource called **Book Bundles**, part of the Children's Literature Collection on the third floor of Helmke Library. The collaboration earned them

a Purdue Innovative Online Use of Technology Award this summer.

Christian's eight-week online class focuses on child guidance for parents or professionals, including the impact of child development from adult-child interaction. Christian and Tock have provided technical assignments with students reading with a child, and then reflecting, and discussing the results, both the child's and their own.

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## Creative Endeavors Symposium Often a Roadmap for Personal Growth

Because of her pen name, and perhaps her most famous accomplishment being based on a fantastical novel, many assume Nellie Bly was a fictional character. But Elizabeth Jane Cochran was a real person who was often described as larger than life.

"I've always been interested in her," said Paige Beckwith, a Purdue University Fort Wayne senior majoring in history. "I like her story and how she was able to overcome barriers life threw her way. She was able to go on and be successful during a time when most women journalists were just stuck writing for their paper's women's page."

With dreams of pursuing a master's degree in library science, Beckwith made Bly's life the focus of her presentation for last spring's Student Research and Creative Endeavors Symposium. Preparation for this spring's 28th symposium at PFW starts Nov. 20 and 21 with information sessions from noon to 1 p.m. in the Honors Program lounge on Helmke Library's second floor. The symposium will be held March 21, and registration is open until Feb. 3

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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 our campus community.

Depending on the nature of existing or predicted conditions, the chancellor or his designee may declare a windchill, snow, or ice emergency for the Purdue Fort Wayne campus. This decision process will include coordination with the Allen County Department of Homeland Security, the City of Fort Wayne, and area school systems.

Decisions regarding the declaration of these emergencies will be 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 to which the action will apply. When windchill, snow, or ice

emergencies are declared, the following means of communicating with the campus community may be utilized:

- PFW email system
- PFW **text alert** system
- PFW **Guardian** app
- 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).

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Mon National University and Purdue Fort Wayne Sign Memorandum of Understanding

Purdue University Fort Wayne Chancellor Ron Elsenbaumer signed a memorandum of understanding with Mon National University Chancellor Pon Nya Mon on Wednesday morning that was technically decades in the making. Fittingly, the event took place in the International Ballroom at Walb Student Union.

Founded in 2022, Mon National College is located in Mawlamyine, Myanmar, and has an enrollment of 300 students. The Mon are an ethnic group and mostly live in the Mon state in Myanmar.

Under the agreement, the two institutions will take part in student and faculty exchanges, shared research, and other collaborations, according to Mary Encabo Bischoff, Teaching English as a New Language program director and clinical assistant professor of linguistics. She and Shannon Bischoff, director of PFW's Three Rivers Language Center in the School of Education, have worked with Fort Wayne's Mon population for approximately 10 years, and with the Mon people in Myanmar and Thailand for the past five.

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*Melissa Schenkel and Dana Berkes are president and vice president, respectively, of the Purdue Fort Wayne Foundation.*

## PFW Foundation Increasing Its Role On and Off Campus

When Gilbane Development Company and Purdue University Fort Wayne held a groundbreaking ceremony on Oct. 29 for a 600-bed, 213,000-square-foot apartment complex on the university's North Campus, few understood the role the Purdue Fort Wayne Foundation played in the \$90-\$100 million project. The development is being built as part of a public-private partnership on land owned by the foundation, which has helped get an expedited construction schedule off and running.

But what is the PFW Foundation, and what role does it fulfill?

The foundation started in 1958 to spearhead the university's birth. It has had various forms, currently with five community members and five appointed by Purdue, but the purpose has always been to secure private contributions that advance the university's mission.

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## Good to Know

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### Childcare Survey

If you are a currently student with children under the age of 12 and are willing to participate in a short survey regarding childcare, please contact Jenny Bower at [bowerj@pfw.edu](mailto:bowerj@pfw.edu) or call 260-481-6852 by Nov. 20.

### Dining Services Hours during Thanksgiving Week

All campus dining services will be closed starting Nov. 27 at 3:30 p.m. and will resume regular hours on Dec. 2.

### U Can Crush Hunger Campaign Results

For the second year in a row, Purdue University Fort Wayne placed second in the Community Harvest Food Bank's U Can Crush Hunger campaign. Competing among eight northeast Indiana secondary education institutions, PFW supporters donated 20,118 pounds. Overall, 123,034 pounds were donated in the event's 10th year.

## Eventful

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*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.*

NOVEMBER

13

Today, 7–9 p.m.

## Student Life Bingo Night

Don't be late for bingo night! Only the first 200 get cards and seats. Top prizes TBA...

NOVEMBER

15, 16, 17,

21, 22, 23

8 p.m.

2 p.m. on Nov. 17

## Cabaret

As the roaring 20s give way to 1930, American writer Cliff Bradshaw travels to Berlin in search of new experiences and inspiration. He finds both in the hedonistic Kit Kat Club and its star, Sally Bowles. The club, led by an enigmatic emcee, is a decadent sanctuary that artists, misfits, and performers call home...

NOVEMBER

19

Tues., 6–8 p.m.

## Pop 'n' Rock Supershow #1

Dive into the ultimate musical experience! This electrifying concert will feature popular music ensembles showcasing a dynamic blend of classic covers and original hits, making for an unforgettable evening of entertainment...

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## News Spotlight

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

**PFW becomes first U.S. university to recognize Mon National College**

wboi.org | Monday

PFW students get insight into criminal justice at symposium

WANE 15 | Thursday

Beyond the Horizon: Romain Lopez

horizonleague.org | Oct. 31

PFW making headlines with student housing groundbreaking

Local and state media | Oct. 29–31

## Mastodon Moments

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



*Students got the chance to drum along with the Volmoed Youth Drumming Project from South*



*Africa in the Rhinehart Recital Hall on Tuesday. The traveling group, consisting of empowered young men and women who make their own instruments, gave two presentations, which included much audience participation. The visit was sponsored by the College of Visual and Performing Arts and its School of Music, the School of Education, and the Indiana Center for Middle East Peace.*

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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