

Free birds



Watching a child leave for college can be nerve-racking

BY ALEX HADDON
Summer Journalist

On her first day at Purdue, Natalie Tribble was attempting to keep track of her classes and deal with a broken foot in a cast. In the midst of the chaos, she left her laptop on the bus, noticing just as the bus started to drive away. Running after it in a panic, she called her father, Brad Tribble.

"She's on the phone with us like 'What do I do? What do I do?'" Tribble recalls. "And I'm like, 'Well, I have no idea. I hope the bus stops.' She didn't get it back."

Tribble is an administrator of the "100% UNOFFICIAL Parents of Purdue" Facebook group, a page dedicated to parents with what Tribble calls "hands-off" styles of parenting. Although Natalie graduated recently with a degree in elementary education, Tribble continues to be an active member of the group.

"100% UNOFFICIAL Parents of Purdue" has a tongue-in-cheek tone that some readers might find insulting, but Tribble says the group has raised thousands of dollars for underprivileged students and has even bought Purdue staff lunch.

"If we see a need, we take care of it," Tribble said.

Tribble said it barely felt different when Natalie went off to college, because she called her parents every day, whether it was to seek advice for a lost laptop or express her joy at seeing the Starship food delivery robots for the first time.

For many parents, however, sending their child off to college can be an emotional time. In addition to the endless tasks that must be completed, parents and their children must be prepared for what may be their first extended period apart.

"For many (parents), the biggest adjustment is not having their student under the same roof each night

where they can easily detect if something is up with them," said Jennifer Wetli, assistant director of Purdue's Parent and Family Connections office.

Stacey Kelley said her son, Harrison, was prepared when he began his Purdue engineering degree two years ago. Kelley is an admin of a different, similarly named Facebook group, the "UNOFFICIAL" 2020 Purdue Parents Page, which was formed by parents from the Purdue-sponsored 2020 parent group.

Kelley said Harrison had learned discipline after playing tennis in high school. He had fallen in love with Purdue after attending STEP, a summer engineering camp on campus. To ensure that Harrison was ready to build relationships in college, Kelley said she encouraged him to spend more time with his groups of friends and less with his family.

Despite his preparedness, Kelley said she still felt "trepidation and

sadness" at the thought of Harrison leaving for school. She admits there was headbutting between them as the move-in date approached, but there were a lot of "moments of joy."

"You ask yourself all these questions," Kelley said. "Are they as prepared as I think they are? Do they know how to use everything? The doctor? The bus?"

The goal, Kelley said, was to make Harrison self-sufficient.

"Teach them everything you can," Tribble said.

Hopefully, the majority of college prepping is completed by the time move-in day arrives.

Kelley said the process is "hectic." They had only two hours to move his stuff into his room in Shreve Hall. There was little time to be emotional.

Tribble has a similar outlook. "We put the stuff in the blue tub, dropped it off," Tribble said. "I put a

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About this issue

This Parents' Guide is produced by The Purdue Exponent, the student media organization associated with, but independent of, Purdue University. It is mailed to the parents of incoming freshmen for the fall of 2022.

The Exponent publishes newspaper editions two days a week (Mondays and Thursdays) during the fall and spring semesters and distributed free on campus. It also maintains a robust electronic news site, www.purdueexponent.org, that is updated frequently with news and Purdue sports coverage.

Daily PDF subscription delivery is available for a fee. Contact: classified@purdueexponent.org, or call 765-743-1111 for more information. You can also sign up on our website for an electronic newsletter, and be sure to keep in touch with what's going on by following our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

The Exponent was first published in December 1889. Without the benefit of a journalism school, the Exponent has produced numerous award-winning journalists and industry leaders.

All full-time Purdue students on the West Lafayette campus are eligible to be staff members. We have callouts (information sessions that are common to Purdue student organizations) each semester. This semester's callout will be at 6:30 p.m. Aug 30 in our office on the second floor of 460 Northwestern Ave.

Local moms help new students

BY JAMES KLING
Summer Journalist

Despite most of their kids having graduated and moved from West Lafayette, about five moms are still actively helping out more than 13,000 Purdue students and parents on their Facebook page "Townie Moms."



JAMES KLING | SUMMER JOURNALIST
"Townie moms" Linda Booth, left, and Christy Preston talk about their Facebook page.

This group of local mothers, most of whose kids who attended Central Catholic High School, created the Facebook group when their own kids transitioned to college.

The page was created in 2015. "Townie moms" decided to volunteer around the city and answer questions for new Purdue parents, and they're still going strong.

The page is not affiliated with Purdue. They are there to help out with the new West Lafayette community.

"You just want to be the mom that you need in town to help you then," Christy Preston said. "Like my son went to grad school in Tampa. The worst feeling is I know nobody there. ... His engine light came on as soon as he got to Tampa, and I had to go buy a car in Tampa. I didn't know where to buy a car. ... When you don't have a resource to even start at, it's hard. So we just try to at least be their resource for them."

To be that resource, townie moms will answer questions about the local community that people from out of state would not know.

"We get a lot of questions about things like local dentists, car repair, hotels, Airbnb, things like that," Linda Booth said.

Although they answer plenty of questions, the townie moms are more than just a base of knowledge. They help out where they can, too.

One time, a student from New York was told by Purdue that he could get help moving out on Wednesday, but

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Parent to parent: Advice for first-timers

You'll likely spot some common themes here

We asked current and former Purdue parents for their advice to new Purdue parents. Here's what they offered on our Facebook page.

Annie Colwell: Don't assume that their high school prepared them for college classes so well that they should go straight into advanced college coursework, especially in math.

Kenda Resler Friend: A savvy Purdue alum saw my joy at my son attending Purdue, and shared the advice of don't go down memory lane every single minute while at Purdue. "We used to do this here and that there." Let your student create their own memories, and take joy in the fact you can relate to the locations and traditions!

Lynn Miller Dean: A good lesson for some parents would be not to go on the Facebook parent pages to ask other parents to set up play dates for their students who are struggling to make friends, talk about or solicit advice on their students' health or mental health issues, etc. I like how someone explained that they should not post anything on those pages that they would not say to someone with their kid present.

James Ruddy: Visit them prior to that Thanksgiving Break. It helps both the parents and the



JOE DUHOWNIK | STAFF REPORTER
The finish line: Here, President Mitch Daniels asks all family and friends of graduates to stand during a May commencement ceremony.

student. Recharge for both. Encourage them to go through BGR. Our daughter met her best friends during that week.

Dave Schaller: Don't make them homesick by begging them to come home. Go visit them at Purdue. There are many things to see and do there.

Karen Ambrose Hickey: Plan a visit in October or so but maybe not during parents weekend,

when it's crazy. It's a great time to shop for winter clothes if you are from out of state. Also be prepared to do your own thing and explore the area and just wait for your Boiler to call when they are ready. Definitely prearrange dinner or something, but don't expect every meal with them.

Jerilyn Jones Kind: If you want to know if your young adult will be OK, say goodbye at the car

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A parent's guide to Purdue sports

Tickets, parking and things to do when you're here

STAFF REPORTS

Before even talking about how to get tickets, you should know that Purdue Athletics sells all tickets digitally. The tickets will be stored on your phone in your Apple or Google Pay wallet.

Fans should download these tickets before arriving to a game because Wi-Fi and data will be unreliable because of the number of people at the games.

The only bags fans can bring inside Purdue sporting events are clear bags of a certain size or a "small clutch bag approximately the size of a hand," according to Purdue's clear bag policy.

Single-game football tickets are available to the general public through Purdue Sports beginning on July 19. Prices for official tickets vary depending on the opponent and the seat. The most in-demand games will likely be the season opener against Penn State on Sept. 1 and Family Weekend against Nebraska Oct. 15.

One thing parents might want to be aware of is that the student section is the rowdiest part of the audience, for obvious reasons. Families with young children will want to be aware of the fact that some common chants for the football games involve profanity and some less-than-nice words directed toward that one university south of us.

For men's basketball, Mackey Arena has already sold out its season tickets and will announce in the fall

information about mini plans and single-game tickets. Expect these tickets to be in high demand as the Boilermakers are riding a 41-game streak of consecutive sellouts.

If one is not able to buy a ticket for football and men's basketball, there are a plethora of ticket resale websites.

Purdue women's basketball is entering year two of the head coach Katie Gearlds era. In Gearlds' first season, Purdue improved its record by nine wins from the previous year.

For women's basketball, single game tickets will start at \$10 and will be available to the general public at a date to be announced, according to Purduesports.com.

Purdue volleyball is coming off a trip to the Elite Eight and a 14-3 record at Holloway Gymnasium. Single-game tickets will be available to the general public beginning Aug. 3 and will cost \$15.

Purdue soccer finished its 2021 season in the second round of the NCAA tournament and was ranked No. 24 in the country.

Both attendance and parking are free for fans at Folk Field, the soccer stadium. The team plays an exhibition game against Illinois State on Aug. 13 and begins its season against USC on Aug. 18.

Parking

For football, there are a plethora of lots and fields for which one can buy a parking pass through Purdue. For a full list and guide to football parking, search for "Purdue football gameday



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO/

Mackey Arena, Ross-Ade Stadium and Holloway Gymnasium sit at the north end of campus.

parking."

Several Greek houses, homeowners and private businesses also sell parking on game days.

The Intramural Gold Fields is one of the larger and more trafficked lots available to the general public and is a 15- to 20-minute walk from the stadium.

For volleyball, free parking is available in the R lot.

Football game-day activities

Aside from tailgating, there are several activities and traditions to participate in before football games.

The Boilermaker Special will give free rides the Friday before home

football games. The Reamer Club social media pages will have more information on the rides when the season begins. It will also drive around campus and blare its horn in the mornings to wake students up for game day.

Also in the morning, many people, primarily students, begin their day by dressing up in a costume and going to the campus bars as soon as they open to do what one does at a campus bar. If you need directions or sound advice, it may be best to avoid the people in onesies.

The Purdue All-American Marching Band performs at Slayter Hill 90

minutes before kickoff for "Thrill on the Hill."

The Boilermaker Crossing opens three hours before kickoff and features several events, games and activities typically aimed at families and is located between Mackey Arena and Holloway Gymnasium.

The football team will arrive at Ross Ade two hours and 15 minutes before kickoff at the northeast corner of Ross Ade. The event features a pep band, giveaways, Purdue Pete and the cheerleaders, as well as the Boilermaker Special, according to Purduesports.com.

Hotels near campus in high demand



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

Hampton Inn and Suites on the intersection of State Street and Tapawingo Drive.

You've got to plan way ahead for big weekends

BY VAL ELLIS

Summer Journalist

If you're looking for a place to stay for family weekend, you're going to have to drive a while.

Purdue's family weekend, scheduled for Oct. 14-16 this year, "gives families the opportunity to visit with their student on campus while engaging in events and activities,"



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

The Purdue Memorial Union is one of the first things people see as they enter campus, and some students say it can be the best place to end the day and watch the sunset.

Even after an approximately 30-minute drive to Crawfordsville, Indiana, you'll find it tough to find accommodations. The Comfort Inn, Hampton Inn and Suites and Holiday Inn Express in Crawfordsville are already booked.

The closest options for Boilermaker parents will be in the city of Lebanon, Indiana, a 40-minute drive from Purdue's campus.

As of publication deadline. The Quality Inn and Suites currently has several rooms available at \$114 a night, according to its website.

Even Lebanon is not unaffected, as the Hampton Inn and Holiday Express are sold out for parents weekend, according to their websites.

There are also several options in Northwest Indianapolis for hotels.

Hotels are more available on other football weekends and will likely be cheapest on weekends without football.

The weekend with the second-most demand appears to be Homecoming on Sept. 24. Unless one is willing to stay two nights for upward of \$500, almost all hotels in West Lafayette do not have rooms available.

On non-football weekends, one should be able to find a hotel from \$100 to \$200 a night, according to local hotel's websites.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

Holiday Inn on South Street in Lafayette.

according to a Purdue news release.

The weekend also has caused many of the local hotels in Greater Lafayette to sell out. The front desk of the Hilton Garden Inn and the Hampton Inn and Suites in West Lafayette said they are already sold out for the weekend. The Purdue Union Club Hotel on campus and the Best Western Plus hotel in Lafayette are also sold out.

All Marriott-, Hilton-, Drury- and InterContinental Hotels Group-owned hotels in Greater Lafayette are also sold out, according to their websites.

Surprise your student with food from afar

STAFF REPORTS

If there's one thing that nearly all college students enjoy it's free things, and even better, free food. If you find yourself missing your student and want to send a treat, here's a compiled list of convenient services available for parents of homesick students.

But before you do, make sure to double-check the address and room or apartment number of your student, just to make sure your surprise gets to the right person.

Packages

Mail them a good, old-fashioned care package. This option may require more work on your end, gathering the gifts and sending them yourself, but sometimes a box of goodies with a handwritten note can mean the most.

Some popular things to send students may be their favorite candy, snacks, extra pens or other school supplies. Consider adding some cold essentials, like cough medicine, vitamin C or ibuprofen. If you're feeling extra generous, you can even include a gift card to somewhere like CVS or Target, which are located within walking distance of campus.

Insomnia Cookies

This chain provides treats until late in the night. The shop offers a variety of freshly baked cookies and accompanying bottles of milk or pints of ice cream. This is a great choice if your child seems stressed with exams or just needs a small pick-me-up between midnight and 3 a.m.

GoPuff

You can choose from an assortment of sweet and salty snack options, household items or frozen meals and send them to your student quickly through the GoPuff delivery app.

Pizza

Order them a pizza from one of the many nearby options. From Papa John's to HotBox Pizza to Mad Mushroom, there are many options for sending your student a quick meal — especially on Sunday nights, when campus dining options are slim.

Amazon

You can send goodies or basic supplies they might need via Amazon straight to one of the two pickup locations on campus, in the Krach Leader-



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

An Amazon pickup location on campus is located in the Purdue Memorial Union.

ship Center or the Purdue Memorial Union.

Door Dash and other services

Nowadays, you can have almost anything delivered relatively quickly for a fee, from restaurant food to drug store goods. Just make sure your student will be home to accept delivery and, again, that the address and instructions are specific.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

THE EXPONENT

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Most recent stats from Greek, co-op groups

STAFF REPORTS

Membership in fraternity, sorority and cooperative life grew in the Spring 2022 semester compared to a year earlier, while grades dropped for most of the organizations during those periods.

There were 6,507 students in the system, a 6% growth from Spring 2021. The 2022 total represents 18.5% of the undergraduates at the university.

Average GPAs for the organizations dropped, but a year ago grades were inflated during the Covid times when classes could be held virtually.

The FSCL community averaged 3.18, compared to 3.31 a year prior.

This is the Spring 2022 average (compared to year before) and cumulative average (compared to year before):

- All-undergraduate semester 3.13 (3.26), cumulative 3.26 (3.30)

- All-men's semester 3.07 (3.18), cumulative 3.22 (3.25)

- All-women's semester 3.22 (3.36), cumulative 3.32 (3.36)

The FSCL is comprised of five governing groups (number of members, individual groups in that council): Interfraternity Council (3,222 members, 40 groups), Multicultural Greek Council (202, 10), National Pan-Hellenic Council (64, 7), Purdue Cooperative Council (336, 11) and Panhellenic Association (2,683, 21).

This is the FSCL Spring 2022 (prior year) and cumulative (prior year):

- Interfraternity Council semester, 3.05 (3.18), cumulative 3.20 (3.23)

- MGC 3.08 (3.26), 3.32 (3.30)

- NPHC 2.65 (2.94), 3.07 (3.15)

- PCC 3.23 (3.35), 3.34 (3.37)

- PHA 3.34 (3.45), 3.42 (3.43)

- All-sorority 3.33 (3.44), 3.42 (3.42)

- All-fraternity 3.05 (3.18), 3.20 (3.23)

During the Spring 2022 semester, the FSCL community contributed 11,128 hours (1.71 hours per member) and philanthropic money raised \$441,924 (\$67.92 per member). The service hours totals are 73 percent less than Spring 2019 (41,277 hours), pre-Covid. But the Spring 2022 philanthropic money raised was 32.8 percent more than Spring 2019 (\$332,669).

The undergraduate ethnicity within the FSCL community with 78.9% white compared



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

Members from dozens of Purdue fraternities and sororities gather for Phi Mu's annual dance competition, Miracle Mania, benefiting the Children's Miracle Network and Riley Hospital for Children.

to 62.1% of the undergraduate population. The biggest discrepancy between the FSCL community and the average undergraduate is among international students. The average undergraduate population is 11.4% international while the FSCL community is 2.1%.

Other ethnic breakdowns differences between the FSCL community and the undergraduate population:

- Asian, 6.5% FSCL (11.9% average undergraduate)

- Hispanic/Latino 5.3 (6.1)

- Two or more races, 4.5 (4.4)

- Black or African American, 1.3 (2.5)

- Unknown, 1.2 (1.3)

The FSCL community has a much higher graduation rate than the general student population.

- Four-year graduation rate, FSCL 73% (65% undergraduate rate)

- Five-year graduation rate, 87 (80)

- Six-year graduation rate, 89 (83)

This is how individual organizations ranked among their peers:

- No. 1 Cooperative semester GPA (36 members), Glenwood, 3.54

- No. 2, Cooperative semester GPA (39 members), Ann Tweedale 3.44

- No. 1 Cooperative service hours, Circle Pines (52 members), 206

- No. 2 Cooperative service hours, Shoemaker (42 members), 204

- No. 1 Cooperative philanthropy dollars raised, Circle Pines, \$6,089

- No. 2 Cooperative philanthropy dollars raised, Twin Pines (27 members), \$1,663

- No. 1 National Pan-Hellenic Council GPA, Delta Sigma Theta (11 members), 2.82

- No. 1 National Pan-Hellenic service hours, Alpha Phi Alpha (eight members), 305

- No. 1 National Pan-Hellenic philanthropy dollars raised, Zeta Phi Beta (seven members), \$850

- No. 1 Panhellenic Association GPA, Kappa Alpha Theta (147 members), 3.50

- No. 2 Panhellenic Association GPA, Kappa Delta (157 members), 3.48

- No. 1 Panhellenic Association service hours, Delta Zeta (137 members), 2,304

- No. 2 Panhellenic Association service hours, Gamma Phi Beta (136 members), 1,187

- No. 1 Panhellenic Association philanthropic dollars raised, Zeta Tau Alpha (143 members), \$133,237

- No. 2 Panhellenic Association philanthropic dollars raised, Alpha Phi (138 members), \$19,279

- No. 1 Interfraternity Council GPA, Sigma Phi Epsilon (24 members), 3.53

- No. 2 Interfraternity Council GPA, Lambda Chi Alpha (33 members), 3.31

- No. 1 Interfraternity Council service hours, Zeta Beta Tau (184 members), 2,074

- No. 2 Interfraternity Council service hours, Pi Kappa Phi (151 members), 1,777

- No. 1 Interfraternity Council philanthropic dollars raised, Sigma Chi (123 members), \$66,500

- No. 2 Interfraternity Council philanthropic dol-

lars raised, Pi Kappa Phi (151 members), \$41,484

- No. 1 Multicultural Greek Council GPA, Sigma Lambda Gamma (13 members), 3.37

- No. 2 Multicultural Greek Council GPA, Delta Phi Lambda (28 members), 3.34

- Largest Cooperative Council group, Circle Pines (52 members); second largest, Shoemaker (42 members)

- Largest National Pan-Hellenic Council group, Alpha Kappa Alpha (17 members); second largest, Delta Sigma Theta (11 members)

- Largest Panhellenic Association group, Kappa Delta (57 members); second largest, Alpha Chi Omega (148 members)

- Largest Interfraternity Council group, Zeta Beta Tau (184 members); second largest, Pi Kappa Phi (151 members)

- Largest Multicultural Greek Council group, alpha Kappa Delta Phi (51 members); second largest, Kappa Phi Beta (39 members)

Some additional overall statistics:

- Interfraternity Council has 40 chapters with an average size of 81 members.

- Multicultural Greek Council has 10 chapters with an average size of 20 members.

- National Pan-Hellenic Council has seven chapters with an average size of nine members.

- Purdue Cooperative Council has 11 groups with an average size of 31 members.

- Panhellenic Association has 21 chapters with an average size of 128 members.

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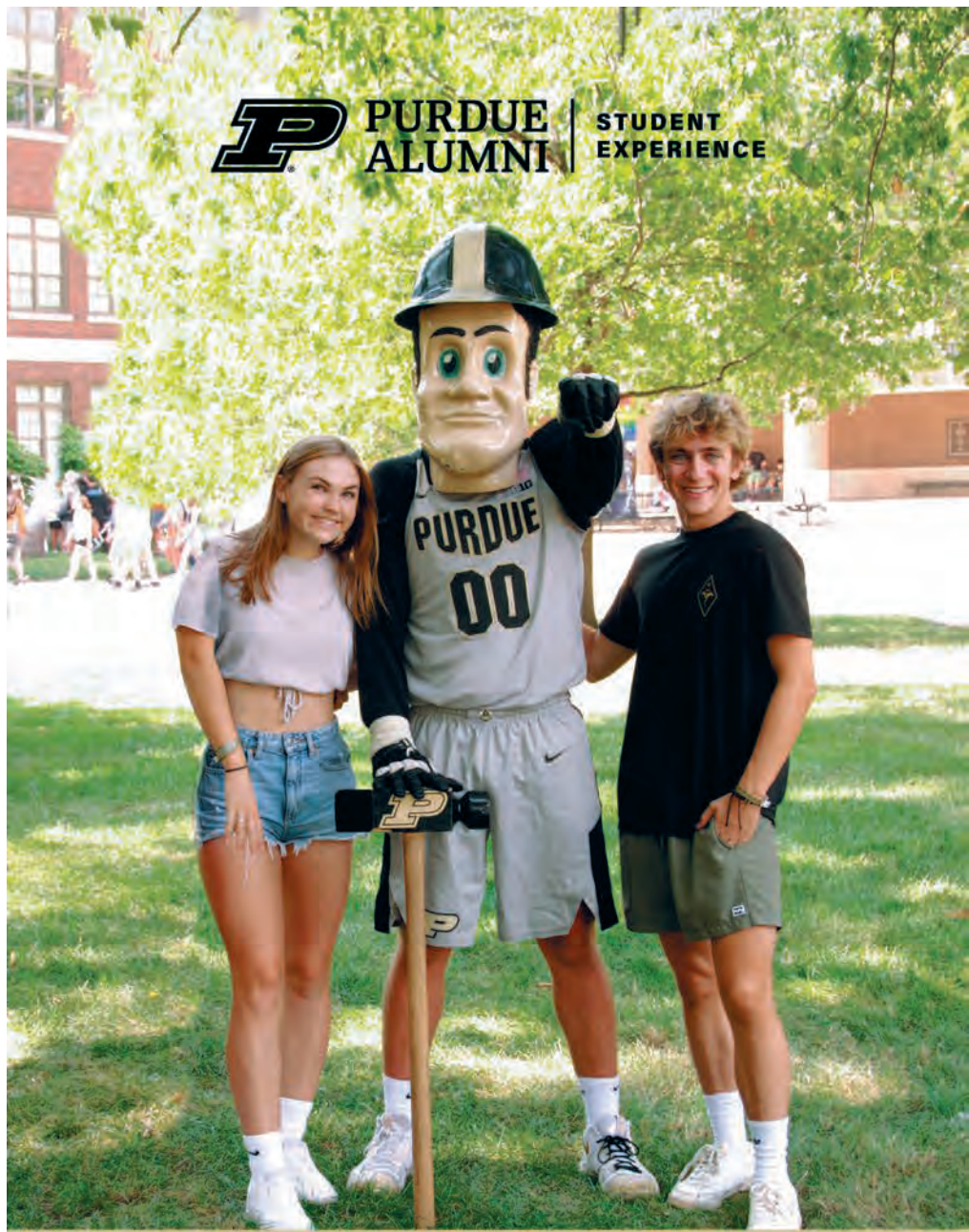
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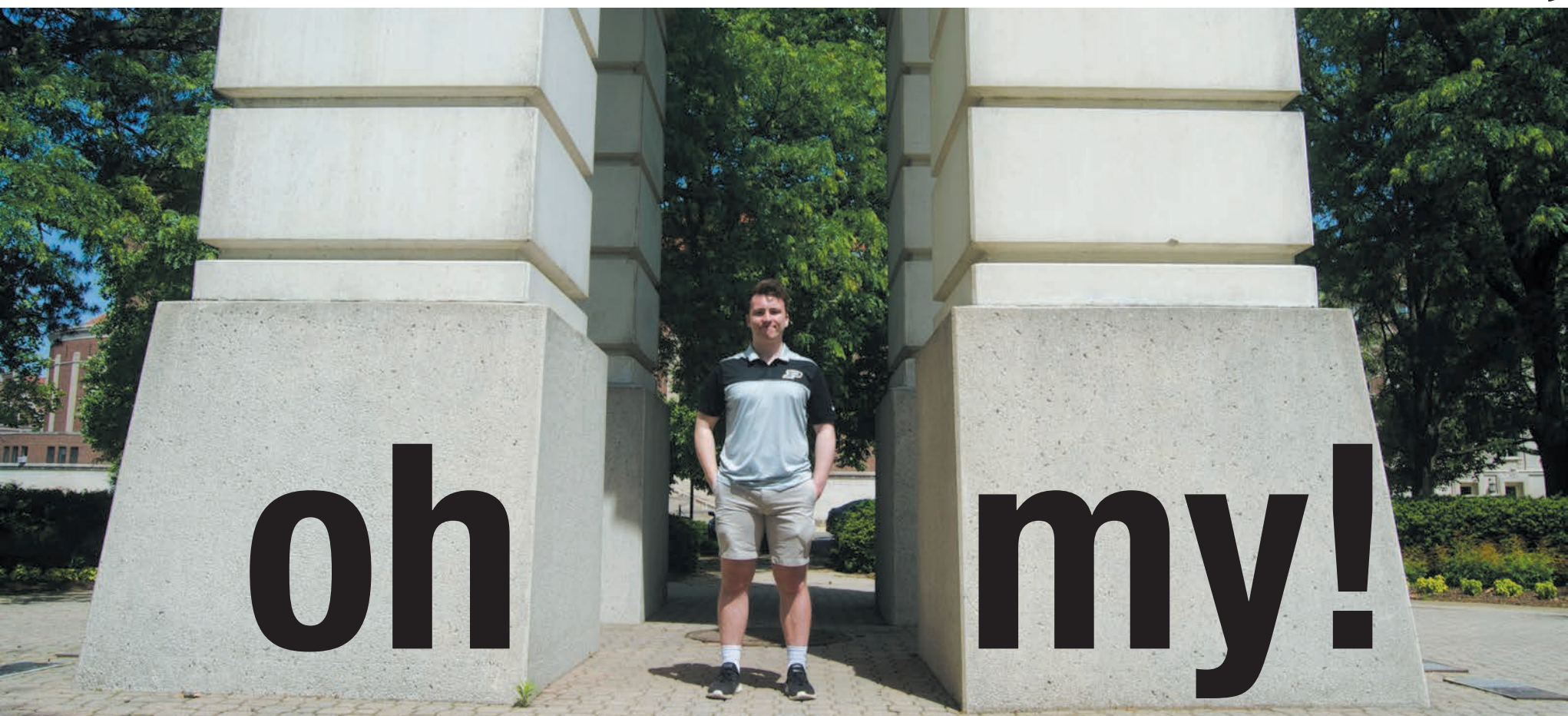
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Lions and fountains and bells,



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

Legend says walking under the bell tower will lead to not graduating on time. Walk under it at your discretion, but most people advise not to and witnesses might judge. Instead, maybe just take a photo next to it.

Here are some Purdue traditions parents should know about.

STAFF REPORTS

What you should know about some Purdue traditions.

Bell Tower

The Bell Tower is arguably Purdue's most iconic landmark. It is said that walking underneath the bell tower as an underclassman will cause you to not graduate on time. Take a picture of your child during their first year and when they graduate.

Fountain runs

At least once during their time at Purdue, your child will participate in a fountain run on campus. Purdue has a number of fountains, and in the late summer and spring, when the weather allows, students will run through them to cool off.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

A Purdue student claps inside one of the many clapping circles on campus.

Clapping Circle

The clapping circle, located between the Union and Heavilon Hall, is a heavily used area of campus. What a lot of people may not realize right away is that if you stand in the middle of the circle and clap, it will sound like it is muffled. It is common to see new students and families clapping at the circle during move-in week.

Purdue sports

Purdue is definitely an athletics school. The students here have a lot of school spirit and enjoy cheering on the various sports teams. Purdue football and basketball games are definitely a sight to behold, and even if your child isn't a fan of sports, it is still worth going to at least one game.

Football and basketball, though the most well known Purdue sports teams, are not all the university has to offer. Purdue volleyball games are sneakily some of the most fun and



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

The Stone Lions Fountain stands near Stanley Coulter Hall. The fountain was a gift of the Class of 1903 and dedicated in 1904.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

When we play Indiana University, it's a rivalry in any sport.

exciting games you can attend here. Regardless of your interest in sports, Purdue has a variety of teams that you can cheer on.

Lion's Head

The Lion's Head Fountain is in the center of campus near the Memorial Mall. It has four lion's heads spouting water from their mouths. It is a Purdue superstition that if you drink from all four heads before an exam, you will ace it. Make sure to remind your child to drink from the fountains before their exams.

Keys at kickoff

At football games, students will take out their keys during every kickoff and shake them around. Obviously the point of this is to generate as much noise as possible.

Many times if students don't have keys they will wave around a shoe, which definitely doesn't make any noise, but it's the thought that counts. If you come to a football game, make sure to join in.

The Boilermaker Special

The famous mascot of Purdue can be seen all over campus. Whether you're here for game day or any other day, you can find the Boilermaker Special somewhere on campus. The Boilermaker Special gives out free rides if you'd like to see Purdue from a train.

Breakfast Club

Looking down the road a bit, one of the biggest traditions for upperclassmen is Breakfast



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

The Boilermaker Special makes an appearance by the engineering fountain.

Club. When students turn 21, they begin preparing for football game days by drinking at 5 a.m. They will dress up in costumes and go to the bars near campus and begin a long day of partying.

Indiana vs. Purdue

In any sport, Indiana and Purdue is an exciting and intense rivalry, but during football and basketball season, the rivalry is elevated. The two schools meet on the gridiron for the last home football game of the season on Nov. 30.

In the last two years, Purdue has become bowl-eligible due to their wins over Indiana, making the rivalry all the more contentious.

The Big Ten basketball schedule has not been released yet, but the Indiana-vs.-Purdue games never fail to create a buzz on campus. Basketball games in general give parents the opportunity to visit in the winter and spring parts of the academic year.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO

Purdue students attend Breakfast Club.

Students discuss campus's best Instagram spots

BY BREE DELIO
For The Exponent

From the very first picture parents take when students move into their dorms to a picture of students dressed in caps and gowns in front of the Purdue University arch, campus is full of backgrounds suitable for Instagram.

When logging on to Instagram and searching "Purdue University," a variety of pictures come up. Many themes involve Purdue athletics, and pictures are often taken in or around Mackey Arena and Ross-Ade Stadium.

"Football season gave me and my friends our favorite college pictures so far," said Sydnee Meredith, a freshman in the College of Health and Human Sciences. "We would

take pictures at every game and whether it was day or night, I would always put those pictures on my Insta."

For many students, Instagram posts revolve around events held by their fraternities or sororities. When looking through his Instagram and analyzing his account, Brian Peterson, a junior in the College of Engineering, discussed what made these posts special to him.

"My frat has created a lot of these memories, so it's where I've posted the most pictures," Peterson said. "The environment at Purdue sports games makes Mackey and Ross-Ade a cool place to post pictures too."

Even if students aren't interested in Purdue athletic and Greek life, campus is full of places where, at the

right time, people can capture the perfect Instagram pictures.

"The bell tower or even the Engineering Fountain are amazing," said Tia Sondej, a junior in the College of Science. "If you go at the right time and wait, the light and sky make the background perfect for a picture."

Along with the Engineering Fountain and bell tower, the Gateway to the Future Arch at the corner of Stadium and University streets is commonly captured in the Instagram search feature when looking up Purdue under locations.

The campus is full of various places that can help students and tourists capture a great Instagram picture.

"I'd say the most Instagrammable place on campus is Mackey," said Mateo Chance, a junior in the

Krannert School of Management. for Purdue sports fans, and nothing compares to Mackey on game day."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Who can resist taking a photo with John Purdue, the man himself?



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Growth and Transition

Have Peace of Mind by Helping Your New Student Maintain Their Mental Health



Your child's college years are a time of growth and transition. They're a time when comfort zones are challenged, old habits are tested and new doors are opened. Few other periods of life present such drastic (and potentially overwhelming) changes as your child's first few months away from home on campus. Your instinct as a parent is to help ease this transition in any way possible but, as you'll learn shortly, that instinct can be counterproductive. Below are the three major sources of stress for new college students and some advice on how to help your child manage their mental health.

instructor expectations more quickly-freeing up more time for their social life. If your child is feeling stuck under the weight of too much work, gently recommend they reach out for help. There's no shame in asking for help and being a regular at these areas of campus will likely surround them with the more ambitious and dedicated members of their class—students who are also making use of campus resources.



Academic Success

College coursework is often a source of mental stress. For certain classes, the first semester may be especially difficult in order to set expectations for more challenging majors. The first semester may be especially difficult as new students learn the ropes and try to meet higher academic standards. This may leave students feeling isolated as they see older peers enjoying free time and embracing campus life. As students adjust to course loads, they may find themselves rooted in their dorm room or campus library instead of getting that "college experience" they've seen in movies or on social media. Your child may struggle with succeeding academically despite their best efforts, damaging their self-image and deflating their confidence.

Luckily, nobody within the university system wants to see your child fail or remain cooped up. Whether it's working with a tutor at the math lab or workshoping essays in the writing center, utilizing campus resources can help your child meet



Social Acceptance

Colleges strive to create atmospheres that are accepting, but sometimes social situations just don't work out. Your child may end up partnered with a roommate they don't get along with, in a class with peers they don't relate to, or in any combination of socially challenging scenarios. This can be very taxing on your child's mental health, as they may falsely attribute an unfortunate luck of the draw as their own social shortcomings.

Your best tool in this situation is reassurance: remind your child they've had friends in the past and are capable of making new ones again. Reassure them that every semester at college will bring new classmates, new contacts and new chances to connect with other people. And if your child feels like waiting for the next "round" of college is too much to endure, many campuses are equipped with mental health experts for students to talk to. If their campus doesn't have staff to speak with, your child could also find help from local resources like Valley Oaks Health. Sometimes all your child needs to get by is someone outside the family who's willing to listen and validate what they're feeling.



Family Pressure

At Valley Oaks Health, we've come to learn that family can be something of a double-edged sword. On one hand, few people are more supportive and loving to someone than their parents. On the other hand, parents often unwittingly create extra pressure on their children, because a child never wants to disappoint their biggest supporters.

Maintaining their relationship with you is another ball your child has to juggle, so try to be accepting of how much they have on their plate when a few days go by without a call. Rather than set routine communication expectations, try to plan out check-in phone calls or visits with your child with plenty of advanced notice. Your child will respect that you're letting them spread their wings outside the nest, and their mental health will benefit greatly from the improved self-image that independence brings.

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To embarrass, or not to embarrass

A parents' guide to interacting on Purdue's campus

STAFF REPORTS

While bringing your incoming freshman to campus this fall, you'll have a great opportunity to do one of two things: make your mark as a cool parent, or embarrass the hell out of your kid.

If you're looking to do the latter, we've got some tips for you. But if you think you're a cool parent, stay tuned, because we've got some tips for you as well.

Do you even realize you're being embarrassing?

A lot of times, parents will think they're being fun or affectionate, when in reality they're doing the exact opposite.

Take photos at every landmark.

Look, I get it. You want to capture every moment you can and that's good. Great even. Life is meant to be a collage of the memories you hold fondest. But do you really need to take a family picture at every notable landmark on campus? Do you really need your child standing next to various old buildings, squinting in the sun and forcing their best smile in 30 different locations?

You do not. Go take a picture at the Neil Armstrong statue like everybody else. Your kid has the next four years to spend on this campus; let them explore every landmark and take the photos then.

Ask if every friend is their significant other.

This move is a sure fire way to either play matchmaker or make a new friendship awkward for the rest of its existence: the "are you together?" question.

It's a seemingly lighthearted way to poke fun of your child making friends of the opposite sex. Yeah, your kid's been out of your oversight for a little bit of time, so obviously the first thing they did was find the nearest person and ask for their hand in marriage. Sorry, parents, but chances are this didn't happen. Let the kids just be kids, and if they smooch a little on the side, more power to them.

Go to frat parties with them.

I won't lie. Spending quality time with family is great, but sometimes quality time can turn sour. Sure, I love it when my mom and I go to the park with a packed lunch and catch up on our daily lives before heading to the mall. And yeah, I love going to Cincinnati with my dad and watching the Reds play.

But do I want to watch my own mother, the woman who birthed me, crack open a case of Truly's with Kyle and Connor at Alpha Sigma Chi and see who can shotgun them the quickest? Do I want to watch my peers hold my father by his legs as he tries to become the "keg king"? No. I don't need my parents showing me up on my own party scene.

Hey, you're actually pretty cool.

If you can avoid all the above mentioned things, you're already ahead. Here are a few more ways you can prove that you're a cool parent.

Pass down Purdue apparel.

Whether your kid knows it or not, they want to be the coolest kid on the block. And to be the coolest kid on the block, they must possess one thing: old Purdue merch. As a parent, and especially former Purdue graduates, this is right up your alley. Thrifting is in, and surely, your kid would adore the old sweatshirts you have from your college days.

Apparel designs change with yearly trends, and sometimes, what's new and trendy can't compete with older designs.

Coming from personal experience, I always get compliments on my second-hand Purdue gear more than my recently bought merch. Not to say one is better than the other, though. If you're reping the gold and black, you're automatically cool.

Ask to see the spots around campus that are important to them.

If you want to be a cool parent, this step is especially important. This is a new chapter in your kid's life, and they want nothing more than to show you what they've been able to find and love on their own.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

A mom spies on her freshman daughter as she attempts to make a new friend at Purdue.

Maybe they found a coffee shop on campus that serves the best latté, or maybe they want you to see how Krach Lawn comes to life as the evening nears.

For as long as your kid has been alive, you've shown them the things that mean the most to you, whether it was your favorite John Mellencamp song or the woods your parents took you to go explore. And now, it's time for them to return the favor.

Help them find where their classes are before

the semester starts.

Getting lost sucks — especially when it's three minutes before your 7:30 a.m. class. One fun thing to do that lets you explore the campus and help your child figure out where their classes are. This can be one of the most important things to do, because Purdue's campus is pretty big. Almost everybody on campus can recall a time when they had a schedule so poorly made that they were late to all of their classes.



EXPONENT FILE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

A Purdue student points out the bell tower to her mother, who's visiting for Family Weekend.

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THE EXPONENT

For more information email:
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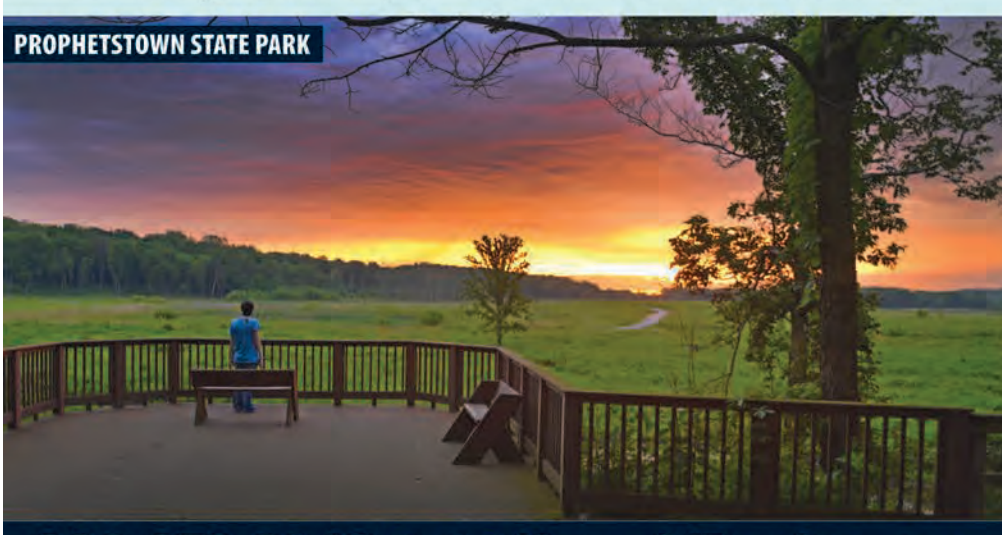


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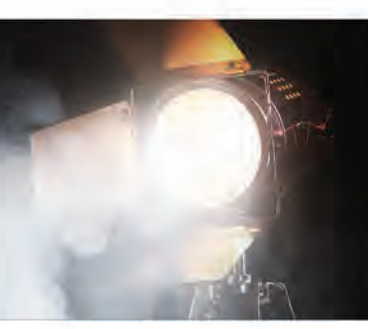
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x = independently organized TED event

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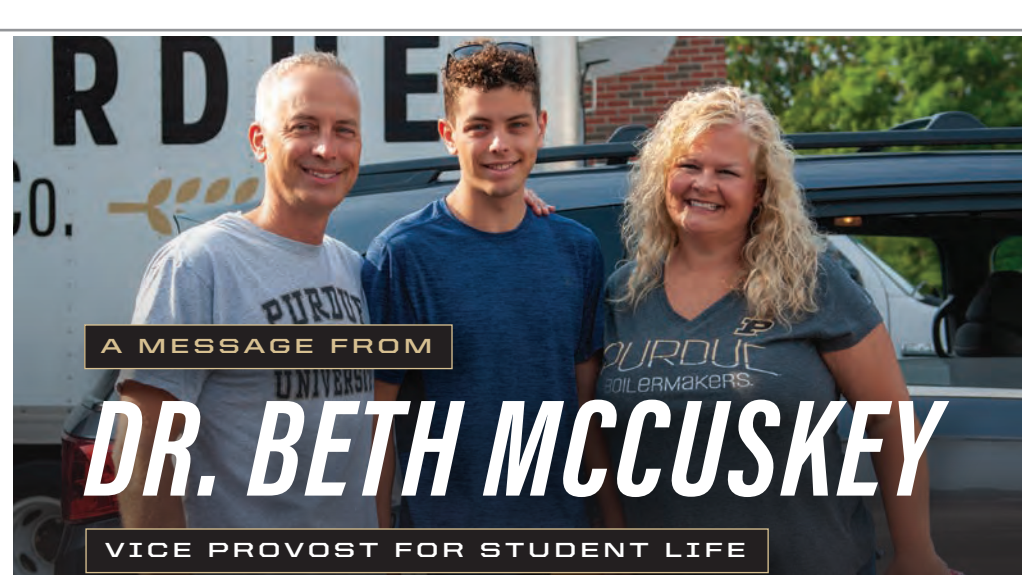
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A MESSAGE FROM

DR. BETH MCCUSKEY

VICE PROVOST FOR STUDENT LIFE

Dear Boilermaker Parents and Families,

On behalf of the Purdue community and Student Life, I am thrilled to welcome you and your student to the Purdue family! Congratulations to your family as you embark upon such an exciting time. The division of Student Life is excited to lead the way in helping your student find their home away from home on campus. In Student Life, we bring together arts, culture, entertainment, leadership, engagement and well-being to create an experience that will impact your Boilermaker the rest of their life.

As you imagine the various aspects of your student's Purdue experience, we know that it is essential to see your student finding support, opportunities and resources. Student Life is a hub for campus engagement as well as resources and support for the growth of students. To share just a few examples, the Office of the Dean of Students offers staff who specialize in student support, students will find opportunities to promote their physical health and overall well-being through Recreation & Wellness, and our Counseling and Psychological Services team offers a variety of professional services. Students can also connect to the vibrancy of campus and begin to build their networks through various opportunities by getting involved in a student organization (we have more than 1,000!), participating in Purdue Bands & Orchestras or Purdue Musical Organizations, joining a fraternity, sorority, or cooperative chapter, or securing student employment right here on campus.

As the parent of a college graduate, I know how strong your impact on your student has been and how you will continue to be part of your Boilermaker's network. Recognizing one's impact and building a network are two of the values we work to develop in every Purdue student through our Steps to Leaps initiative. Steps to Leaps features learning pillars that also include well-being, leadership and grit. As I reflect on my own experiences, I can see how these pillars have manifested in overcoming obstacles to achieve success. The opportunity to watch students develop and flourish in these areas is one of the greatest joys of my role here at Purdue.

The Student Life team is excited to welcome your student, provide opportunities for engagement and fulfillment, and foster growth as they learn and develop during their time at Purdue. I encourage you to learn more about the Steps to Leaps pillars and applications using the QR code below. Here at Purdue, we see family members as some of our most significant partners in student success. We look forward to embarking in this exciting journey with each student and family. Boiler Up!



Dr. Beth McCuskey
Vice Provost for Student Life

Student Life fosters student success through learning opportunities inside and outside of the classroom.

We focus on co-curricular education and leadership development as integral parts of the Purdue experience.



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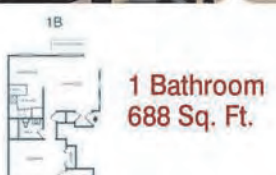
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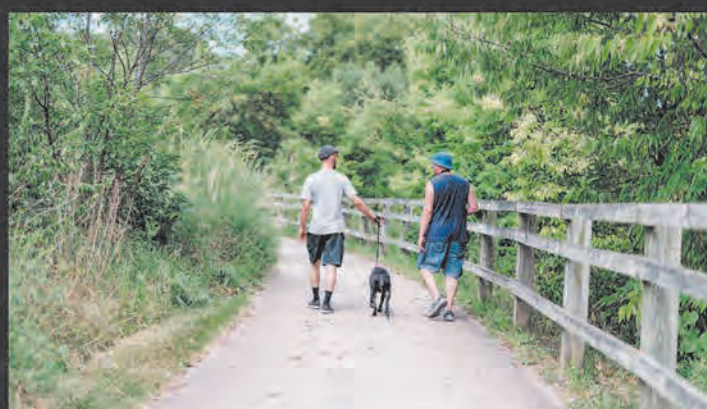
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Paul Davis
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