

# PURA News

Purdue University Retirees Association

October 2019

## Reserve Your Spot for PURA's 2019 Common Read Discussion

John Purdue, carrying his gold handled cane, wowed us with stories about himself and other people connected with his namesake university at the September 9 PURA Kickoff luncheon.

At PURA's 2019 Common Read discussion, John Purdue—or perhaps it will be John Norberg, author of **Ever True – 150 Years of Giant Leaps at Purdue University**—presents more stories about Purdue people who have made giant leaps here and around the world.

The discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the Swaim Room of the Purdue Archives, on the 4th floor of Stewart Center.

Ever True will be available for sale at the discounted price of \$35.

Reservations may be made for the Common Read by e-mailing Hannah Austerman at [jacksonh@purdue.edu](mailto:jacksonh@purdue.edu) or by calling her at 494-7395. Reservations are limited to 30.

Join us to learn about other Purdue people who have made a difference.

## Don't Forget Your Flu Shot!

Dates for Purdue University Official Retirees and Spouses



**Friday, October 11 @ the**  
Turfgrass Center, 1340 Cherry Lane,  
West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00  
p.m.

**Friday, October 18 @ the**  
Turfgrass Center, 1340 Cherry Lane,  
West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 23 @ the Kurz Tech Center, 1281**  
Win Henschel Blvd., West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Friday, October 25 @ the Kurz Tech Center, 1281 Win**  
Henschel Blvd., West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



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## Purdue University Retirees Association Health Insurance Plans Renewed for 2020

The Benefits Committee of the Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA) has renewed the PURcare and Medicare Advantage PPO group health insurance plans with UnitedHealthcare (UHC) for 2020. As in the past, the objective was to maintain the very best medical and drug insurance plans, at the lowest premium possible, while preserving your ability to see the Medicare provider of your choice.

Your committee is announcing the following monthly premiums for 2020:

**PURcare** (UHC Senior Supplement plus Part D prescription plan). \$281.80/member

**UHC Medicare Advantage PPO** (including Part D prescription plan). \$198.07/member

The 2020 monthly PURcare premium has increased \$16.41 from the 2019 monthly premium, an increase of 6.1% per month.

Historically, the PURcare premium (per member per month) has been:

Plan Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Monthly Premium	\$263.96	\$263.85	\$282.73	\$265.39	\$281.80

An additional historical note: The PURcare monthly premium for 2020 is \$0.76 per member less than the monthly premium was ten years ago, 2010.

For PURcare members with prescription coverage from the Veteran's Administration, the 2019 supplement-only monthly premium will be \$185.67/member, an increase of \$4.05 (2.2%).

The 2020 monthly premium for the Medicare Advantage PPO Plan will be \$198.07. This is a decrease of \$10.48 (5.0%). There will be no change to Hospital and Medical co-pays or the Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

There have been no significant changes to the benefits provided by either plan for 2020. Silver Sneakers continues to be included in both plans.

The PURA Benefits Committee's goal for the future is to continue to provide outstanding group health insurance plans while maintaining stability in monthly premiums. PURA members continue to receive outstanding support from Purdue Human Resources. PURA's plans support a portion of the costs of these staff.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are currently enrolled in either of the plans, PURcare or Medicare Advantage PPO, and you do not want to make a change, **no action is required**. Your coverage will automatically continue for 2020. Re-enrollment is not required!

If you elect to terminate your PURA group coverage for a non-PURA plan, you will not be permitted to rejoin at a later time.

Please contact Kate LaMar with questions about plan details or enrollment at [klamar@purdue.edu](mailto:klamar@purdue.edu) or (765) 494-1694.

### Reminder: 2019 United Way Campaign



PURA members received their annual United Way information several weeks ago. In addition to continued support of existing initiatives, programs and partner organizations, gifts in 2018

helped open funding to five programs focused on mental health, substance use, and older youth development. Your help is vital to making our community a better place to live and work. Thanks for your support!

## Qualified Charitable Distributions to Support Students

Consider making a contribution to the PURA scholarships using the IRA Rollover or, as most IRA providers refer to it, a “Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).”

A QCD is available to folks who have reached the age of 70½ and are at the point of Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from their retirement accounts. Retirees who are 70½ or older can direct their IRA trustee to direct up to \$100,000 from their IRA to go directly to a charitable entity, i.e., PURA scholarships. The distribution satisfies the RMD requirement, which means the distribution to charity does not count as taxable income for the donor.

So, for example, if retirees were required to take \$40,000

from their individual accounts to satisfy their RMD amounts, they could each direct \$10,000 as a QCD to Purdue. That would satisfy \$10,000 of the donor’s RMD, but each person would only have to count \$30,000 as taxable income for that year. (That can become an important factor for the donors when figuring out whether or not their Social Security benefits will be taxable that year.)

The fact that a person might have monthly distributions shouldn’t be a problem. If you call your retirement trustee before you make your first QCD, he or she can either calculate how much you would like deducted from each distribution and adjust accordingly, or else make a one-time distribution every year.

To get additional information regarding a QCD to a PURA scholarship, you can contact the Office of Planned Giving at Purdue – 765-494-8657.

## Purdue Bowlersmakers Women’s League Needs Subs

Looking for some exercise, social interaction, and fun on Wednesday evenings? The Purdue Bowlersmakers Women’s Bowling League is looking for substitute bowlers. (Our season has already started, so we cannot add teams at this time.)

This is a relaxed women’s league. Bowling ability of the participants varies; all levels of experience are welcomed. Emphasis is on fun!!

**Location:** Purdue Union Rack & Roll (PMU).

**Time:** Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm (3 games per night).

**Season:** 30 weeks; we started on August 28 and end by April 15. No bowling the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, or New Year’s Day.

No new substitutes can be added after March 26, 2020.

This is a sanctioned league, so there is a one-time yearly fee of \$21. Substitutes do not pay weekly fees (the person they are subbing for pays). There is a shoe rental fee (if needed) of \$2.25/session.

If interested, contact the league's secretary and treasurer, Barbara Gotham by email at [bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com); or 765-463-5390 (calls) or 765-412-5370 (texts).

For more info, check out our website:  
<http://yeomanclan.net/barb/bowling.html>



## PURA Thanks Michele Salla for her service

Michele Salla retired from Human Services at Purdue after 40 years and seven months of loyal service to the university and the Purdue University Retirees Association.

Michele was honored at the PURA Kick-Off Luncheon for her many years of service to PURA; in fact she was the Secretary-Treasurer of the Retirees Advisory Committee before PURA was established in 2002. Since that time, she has served the organization and the seventeen past presidents of PURA.

She had previously received the Betty Nelson recognition from PURA for her outstanding service. Many of the past presidents joined in thanking her for her dedicated service

and wished her good health and happiness in retirement. Michele will continue to be involved in PURA as she has joined the Hospitality Committee. Thank You, Michele!



## Olivia Wood Receives 2019 Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award



Olivia Wood received the Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award at the September PURA Kickoff luncheon for her outstanding contributions to PURA.

The award—named for Betty Nelson, PURA’s first president—recognizes a person or entity that has greatly improved the lives of Purdue retirees and/or made outstanding contributions to PURA.

Our 2019 recipient, Olivia Wood, (pictured above, right, with award namesake Betty Nelson, left) has been a loyal servant of PURA for a great number of years after retiring as Professor of Foods and Nutrition from Purdue’s Department of Nutritional Science.

She served as President of PURA in 2015-2016, Co-Chair of the Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference in 2016-17 and has served as Chair of that committee ever since. As a result, this conference has continued to grow both in attendance and in importance each year, with 2019 being a record year.

Olivia also served as Chair of the “PURA 2020 Task Force” in 2016-17 that compiled and recommended changes to the PURA organization and programs, so that PURA could continue to provide excellent services and benefits to PURA members into the future.

She is always ready to serve wherever needed. Hence, it is with great pleasure and most appropriate that PURA recognizes Olivia B. Wood for her outstanding contributions in improving the lives of PURA members.

Olivia received a trophy and will have her name inscribed on the permanent plaque displayed in the Purdue Memorial Union.

## Purdue Fire Department Exemplifies Hansen Award

Operating from the belief that a strong relationship between the University and its retirees is mutually beneficial, PURA began an award in honor of Arthur G. Hansen, president of Purdue from 1971 to 1982, that would recognize the school, department, or division that excels in fostering a strong relationship between that unit’s retirees and Purdue University.

During his presidency, Hansen and a group of University retirees formed the President’s Advisory Council on Retirement to serve the president as an advisory group on retiree matters. In 2002, that Advisory Council became the Purdue University Retirees Association, or PURA.

The 2019 Arthur G. Hansen Award was given to the Purdue University Fire Department in recognition of their continued and strong relationship and interaction with their retirees since the late 1970’s.

The fire department was started in 1963 and is the only one operating in the BIG 10. Currently, 25 retired firefighters live locally and participate in an annual dinner hosted on campus at the fire department.

Their annual banquet is prepared and served by the current shift firefighters. Retirees and their families attend. Even the first Purdue fire chief, now in his nineties, always attends this special event. The fire department retirees and their families are also invited to retiring fire fighters’ retirement receptions.

The Purdue Fire Department was nominated for this prestigious award by retired firefighter Jackson Wood.

Carol Shelby, Senior Director of Environmental Health and Public Safety; Kevin Ply, Purdue Fire Chief; and Shane Jones, Asst. Fire Chief, (pictured from left to right below with PURA’s Don Gentry) attended the PURA Kickoff luncheon to accept a \$2,500 cash award funded by TIAA and a trophy.

The Purdue Fire Department will have their name engraved on a permanent plaque in the Purdue Memorial Union.



## PURA Kicks Off a New Year

PURA's annual Kickoff luncheon was held September 9, attended by a record 310 people. Past president Don Gentry and President Elect Norm Long served as masters of ceremonies and updated the membership on PURA's accomplishments in the previous year. John Purdue (a.k.a. John Norberg) regaled the crowd with tales of Boilermakers past, who took giant leaps to move the university and the world forward.



## PURA Tech Bytes

By Scott Ksander



### Cryptocurrency, Part 2

I got an email yesterday from a good friend who had just read last month's newsletter article about Cryptocurrency and Bitcoin. He said that it was interesting to get a better understanding of Bitcoin, but he wanted to understand what it meant to him. He asked, "What's wrong with good old green money?"

I remember when I first started to drive, I paid for gas with cash. I would pay the attendant and he would make change from a coin machine on his belt. I remember my Dad getting his Social Security check delivered by the US Mail. For years I remember spending two Sundays a month paying bills by writing checks and sending them out via US Mail.

There are many places now that only accept payment cards for the purchase of gas; cash is not an option. Social Security will no longer send a check via US Mail and we all get our benefits via Direct Deposit. I pay my bills now via scheduled transactions or E-Pay. I can't remember the last time I wrote a check, and I now pay for my snacks at Purdue events with ApplePay on my iPhone. I rarely carry much cash.

The point is that the financial industry is changing, and the rate of change is increasing. The objective is to move funds more quickly, to more people, and for less cost. Cryptocurrency is just the next step in this change. It isn't ready for prime time yet, but that day is coming.

Facebook took the next step in June 2019 when they announced their cryptocurrency, Libra. Unlike Bitcoin, which had high value volatility due to the bid/ask model, Libra was designed to be a "stable currency." Libra tokens will be backed by real financial assets. Libra will still record transactions using the Blockchain technology, but it is really nothing like Bitcoin.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## (Cryptocurrency, Part 2—continued from page 5)

At the risk of being overly simplistic, Facebook is trying to establish the International Bank of Facebook and the Libra would be the international equivalent of the Euro.

**Business Insider** reported in August 2017 that 2 billion people around the world don't have a bank account. More than 20% of unbanked adults receive wages or government assistance in cash. Facebook's initial target for Libra is India with more than 190 million unbanked people. India is also Facebook's largest population of users with 270 million.

The US has 210 million Facebook users, worldwide Facebook has 2.38 billion users, so the base for pushing transactions worldwide is already well established. The increase in economic contributions from the currently unbanked population is estimated at \$17-52 billion, if this area could be effectively reached.

Facebook smartly established the Libra Association in Switzerland to take advantage of the positive reputation of Swiss Banking. The association collected 28 initial members including Visa, Mastercard, PayPal, and a number of large venture capital companies.

Facebook also attracted the attention of Governments and Regulators. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve said he had "serious concerns" about Libra. The U.S. House Committee on Financial Services immediately scheduled hearings and the European Union started an inquiry. The reaction was not positive, which is not surprising for a "first mover" in a new area. Governments are concerned about how this could be used for money laundering and illegal transactions. The financial services industry is concerned about how this could take market share and impact the currently very profitable business of transaction fees for payment cards and funds transfers. The first Libra tokens will not be issued until sometime in 2020. Facebook has pledged that they will not launch Libra until all concerns of lawmakers have been addressed.

It will also be interesting to see how Amazon responds to Libra. Changes will be coming quickly in the financial transaction space in the next few years.

Next month this series will conclude with a discussion on the interim steps that are available now in the transition away from "green money". Payment Service Providers such as Venmo, Square Cash, Zelle, WhatsApp, and even PayPal are already changing the payment technology scheme. These are capabilities you can be using now.

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## Encouraging Staff to Save for Retirement

Sandwiched between the Purdue Alumni Association and the Purdue Women's Club booths, PURA manned a table at the Purdue Employees Resource Fair held on September 13 in the Purdue Memorial Union South Ballroom. This Fair is annually sponsored by APSAC and CSSAC\* to provide employees an opportunity to meet with vendors of benefit programs and services, to provide staff and faculty a chance to ask questions, gain awareness of available resources and sign up for programs and activities. This Fair is regularly attended by 800-900 employees.

Norm Long, PURA President Elect, and Melinda Bain, a past president, represented PURA and spoke with employees to encourage millennials to begin saving for retirement, explaining the benefits of becoming an active member of the Purdue University Retirees Association upon retirement.

Norm and Melinda spoke about the social aspects, regular activities, and benefits available to retirees, while referring requests regarding health insurance to Human Resources staff. Many individuals approaching retirement

age stepped away from the table with the PURA Brochure.

This year's event was well attended and, as Norm said, "If we can encourage one more young person to start saving early for retirement, our time is well spent at this Fair."



\*APSAC: Administrative and Professional Staff Advisory Committee;  
CSSAC: Clerical and Service Staff Advisory Committee



## 2019-2020 PURA Scholarship Recipients

For the 2019-2020 academic year, the two PURA scholarships will be providing financial support to eleven students, amounting to over \$11,000.

Two students were awarded scholarships from the Purdue Opportunity Award in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke Endowment:

- Kiana Bowen is a Senior from Columbus, Indiana, majoring in Game Development Design and Animation in the Purdue Polytechnic Institute.
- Alyssa Hudgins is a Freshman from LaPorte, Indiana, majoring in First Year Engineering in the School of Engineering.

Nine students were awarded scholarships from the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment:

- Jannae Allen is a Senior from Saint John, Indiana, majoring in Visual Communication Design, in the School of Liberal Arts.
- Cole Anderson is a Senior from Linton, Indiana, majoring in Virtual Production Integration in the Purdue Polytechnic Institute.
- Megan Darr is a Senior from Granger, Indiana, majoring in Mathematics Education in the School of Science.
- Monica Flores is a Junior from East Chicago, Indiana, majoring in Finance in the School of Management.
- Carlos Gonzalez is a Senior from Lafayette, Indiana, majoring in Chemical Engineering and Management in the School of Chemical Engineering.
- Kiersten Haselby is a Junior from Monticello, Indiana, majoring in English in the School of Liberal Arts.
- Jennie Swanson is a Junior from Lafayette, Indiana, majoring in Psychology in the School of Health and Human Sciences.

- Laila Verduin is a Sophomore from Cedar Lake, Indiana, majoring in Pre-Communication in the School of Liberal Arts.
- Matthew Watson is a Sophomore from Warsaw, Indiana, majoring in Aviation Management in the Purdue Polytechnic Institute.

If you are interested in supporting more students annually, contributions to both scholarships can be made directly by check to the Purdue Foundation, address:

Purdue Foundation  
Dauch Alumni Center  
403 West Wood Street  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2007

Please indicate the exact name of the scholarship in the memo line: POA in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke or PURA Student Scholarship Endowment.

If you would like to make an IRA Rollover (Qualified Charitable Distribution), please see the companion article on page 3.



Jennie Swanson, PURA scholarship recipient, attended PURA's Kickoff luncheon.

## Orville Redenbacher (1907-1995)



David Caldwell  
as Orville  
Redenbacher

Continuing our series on historical Purdue figures, this month features popcorn king Orville Redenbacher, being portrayed this year by PURA's David Caldwell.

Orville Clarence Redenbacher was born July 16, 1907, in the Jackson Township farm home of 205 acres about seven miles south of Brazil in Clay County in west central Indiana. His parents were Will and Julie Redenbacher who also were the parents of older siblings Elsie, Mabel, and Karl.

At about twelve, Orville began to raise

popping corn and sold it on the cob in fifty pound sacks to stores in nearby Brazil and Terre Haute. His sales started at a mere \$10 to \$50 a month, but his persistence eventually increased sales by as much as \$150 monthly with some stashed away for college.

One of Orville's most positive influences in high school was Horace Abbott, Clay County's first agricultural extension agent for the Purdue Extension Service. Abbott's duties included the supervision of all 4-H activities in the county. He also encouraged the high school's vocational agriculture students. Abbott instantly became Orville's hero and role model and as early as his freshman year in high school, Orville had set his sights on becoming a county agent like Abbott, a Purdue graduate in agriculture.

*(continued on page 8)*

## (Orville Redenbacher—continued from page 7)

Orville found himself in the 4-H dent corn, poultry, calf, and garden clubs, and two years later on the state champion poultry, egg and corn judging 4-H teams. Eventually he was on the state championship team, which earned him the right to go to the national competition on the 4-H dairy judging team, where he placed second individually in the national competition.

His outstanding achievements at Brazil High School won him an appointment at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. But at sixteen, he didn't meet the minimum age requirement. The issue was moot because he had already made up his mind several years earlier that he was going to study agriculture at Purdue University.

When it was time to attend college, Orville went to Purdue at age 17 with a friend and visited Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) fraternity. Since he had made no plans for lodging at Purdue, he and his friend were immediately asked to pledge Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and moved in the day they arrived. In 1928, he earned his Purdue Agriculture bachelor's degree in Agronomy.

While at Purdue, he played tuba in the "All-American" Marching Band, and was editor of the *Debris*, the *Agriculturist*, and the *Purdue Exponent* and also ran track.

Upon graduation from Purdue in 1928, Orville took a job teaching Vocational Agriculture at Fontanet, a tiny town northeast of Terre Haute. It didn't actually have a Vo-Ag program nor an industrial arts teacher, so he was asked to teach vocational agriculture, a class in biology and a class in industrial arts, plus seventh and eighth-grade agriculture. He also found time to organize Fontanet's first 4-H clubs. The day after Christmas in 1928, he asked Corinne Rosemond Strate to marry him.

Before his first year of teaching was up, he was asked by Horace Abbott, his former mentor in Clay County and now in Vigo County, to become the county 4-H club agent. At not quite age 22, Orville was euphoric and was also soon to become a father. Orville was the coach for the Vigo County dairy-judging team that won a state championship. He also organized the nation's first 4-H Junior Leadership club and organized and directed the first Indiana 4-H Junior Leadership camp sponsored by the Indiana District Kiwanis clubs. On April 1, 1932, Orville became the County Agent in Vigo County. The county fair had been abandoned in 1910 and in 1930, Orville led the effort to revive the county fair, providing space and premium money for the 4-H Club program that was to be central to the event. He was the Purdue Extension county educator until 1939.

In 1939, Terre Haute citizens, Henry P. Smith and his brother Hi (the wealthy owners of some 12,000 acres of land, as well as their mines and oil wells), a third owner, Anton "Tony" Hulman (owner of a wholesale grocery company and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the Smiths' first cousin) came to Orville looking for a manager to profitably organize their company and land. They had heard about his dynamic management skill as a county agent and innovative farm broadcaster.



The Redenbachers accepted the offer and moved south to Gibson and Warrick County. On January 1, 1940, at age 32, Orville officially began the day-to-day management of the Smith brothers' land and renamed the vast complex Princeton Farms. One year his shared income from the corn, soybeans and oats planted in the bottomlands was ruined by flooding. It was too late in the season to be replanted. Orville considered the setback not as a defeat, but to be viewed simply as lessons not to be forgotten.

In 1941, Orville began planting hybrid popcorn seed developed in the 1930's by plant scientists at his alma mater, Purdue University. Princeton Farms was soon selling popcorn seed not only in the USA and Canada; but also in Hungary, Israel, Columbia, Argentina, Chile and South Africa. In 1941, Princeton Farms began raising commercial popcorn for the supermarket trade and continued to increase acreage. By 1951, Princeton Farms was growing a popcorn hybrid Orville had developed. They were also raising beef and dairy cattle, Hampshire hogs and registered Hampshire sheep, and showed the animals at state fairs and other events. Orville erected the first liquid fertilizer storage tank in the USA.

To deal with the military draft in WWII, Orville brought in Jamaican workers until the draft was changed to exempt farm workers. He built a bunk house and kitchen near the office for the workers.

Charles Fredrick Bowman, like Orville, was an Indiana farm kid, a Purdue graduate and a frequent visitor and friend to Orville. One night while visiting Orville, Charles told Orville he had been approached about managing the oldest seed corn business in Indiana owned by George and Marie Chester. Late in 1950, George called Charles and offered to sell the business. Although Orville was seemingly set for life where he was, Charles called Orville and proposed they buy the business as partners. Orville and Corinne decided to make the move and take on the new challenge in Boone Grove.

*(continued on page 9)*



## (Orville Redenbacher—continued from page 8)

Orville organized and became manager of Chester Hybrids with partner Charles F. Bowman in Valparaiso in 1952. That company would later go on to produce the popcorn brand that made Redenbacher a household name. A third silent partner joined them, G.L. “Jack” Findling.

Carl Hartman came on the scene in 1959, became Chester’s prime plant breeder and planted 3,000 popcorn plants of 83 varieties of popcorn on an acre of ground—each with different characteristics—to find the quality of popcorn they were hunting for. They were selling the product under the brand name RedBow Popcorn Hybrids (REDenbacher and BOWman) and Orville started wearing his signature red bow tie.

By 1965, Hartman achieved what Orville had sought for thirty-five years: light, fluffy, pop-able corn that left few if any unpopped kernels, minimal hulls, had excellent taste, and met the ultimate test of 44-to-1 ratio volume of popped to unpopped corn. Orville had a tall, clear plastic cylinder calibrated just for such a test. He wandered around the room and could only utter three words: “We made it! We made it!” It was the birth of “Gourmet” popcorn. Great

efforts were made to make the popcorn available through various marketing efforts and much publicity. Eventually after several business transactions, the popcorn business was sold to agribusiness giant ConAgra.

Corinne, Orville’s wife, was an active mother and community leader. On May 25, 1971, in a Valparaiso hospital at the age of 61, internal hemorrhaging brought a merciful death. At the same time, Orville lay a few doors down the hall with an ulcer resulting from overwork. He remarried later that year to his second wife, Nina Reder, who died on May 8, 1991.

Orville had moved to Coronado, California, and at age 88, death came unexpectedly. Unable to attend the 17th annual Popcorn Festival in Valparaiso on September 9, he had been able to fly to Indianapolis for a wedding, but cut his trip short and returned to California. On September 19, 1995, he apparently suffered a heart attack and was unable to get out of his Jacuzzi. His body was discovered early the next morning by the building superintendent who went to Orville’s apartment to check on a reported water leak. Orville was cremated and his ashes scattered at sea.

## Smile Corner

By Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman



## Burning Questions for Which I Am Seeking Answers

Now that I’m retired, I have time to sit around and ponder the big questions in life, like:

Who invented dust? Does dust have a purpose? If dust has a purpose, I’d like someone to explain it to me.

Why is it so hard to get band-aids out of their wrappers? (Am I the only one who has trouble with this?)

Why do my cats throw up on my Laura Ashley bedspread instead of on the hardwood floor?

Why does the optometrist ask me: “Is THIS better . . . or is THIS better?” Aren’t I paying HIM to tell ME?

Why is my phone always in the other room?

Why does the Pennsylvania turnpike have 90 degree turns as soon as you exit the tunnels? Shouldn’t they at least warn you with a sign that the road is going to turn so you’re not reaching for your sunglasses when you should be turning the wheel?

Why does everybody go to the store at the same time I want to?

Why didn’t I read my new recipe for cheese biscuits all the way through before I started making them so I wouldn’t have gotten to the end and read: “Sprinkle the remaining cheese on top”? (What remaining cheese?)

Why is it that no matter what size bag of topsoil you buy, there’s never as much as you need?

Why is it that you go for a long time with nothing to do, and then there are two things you want to do that are scheduled at the exact same time?

In his fall newsletter, why did Mayor Dennis tell us to celebrate the fact that we have four seasons here in West Lafayette? There aren’t four seasons. There’s no spring. There’s hardly any fall. Oh, wait. I get it! The four seasons are: Cold. Miserably cold. Hot. And miserably hot.

And finally,

Why does my doctor ask me what the date is every time I go in? If he doesn’t know, couldn’t he just ask someone on his staff? If he’s trying to determine my mental status . . . I’m retired! There’s no need for me to know the date. Or the day of the week. If he needs to ask me something, he should just ask me the year and let it go at that.

*Sally’s books are available on Amazon or at sarajanecoffman2@outlook.com.*

## PURA Tours Tiny Houses and Aspire Apartments

On Wednesday, September 18th, the Campus and Community Activities Committee kicked off the year with tours of the Tiny Houses and the new Aspire complex on the west end of campus. Nearly 40 PURA members took part in each of the tours.

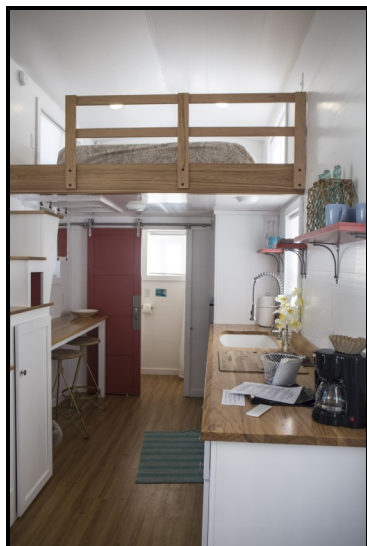
The tiny houses tour took place in the morning at the “village” of tiny houses that has been erected on an open lot just north of the Purdue West Shopping Plaza. PURA members were greeted by Brittany Clute of Try It Tiny LLC, the company that provides the tiny houses for Purdue. Brittany provided information about the company, which has erected tiny house villages at locations such as downtown Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and other locations as well as at Purdue. She conducted a Q&A session following an open tour of the structures.

PURA members were able to tour the 7 tiny houses on site, each of which is certified as an RV and has been built on a trailer so that it can be towed to any suitable location. Each tiny house has a unique design, but all are equipped with a bathroom and kitchen and can sleep 2-4 individuals. The tiny houses at Purdue can be rented for \$400 per night on football game weekends. They offer an interesting accommodation alternative for fans who would like to gather with like-minded individuals right on campus while still having private accommodation space.

In the afternoon, PURA members got a chance to see Aspire, a new state-of-the-art community of student apartments located in the Discovery Park district on the west end of State Street across from First Street Towers.

Operated through a partnership between Purdue and Balfour Beatty Communities, the four-story, three-building complex has studio, 2-bedroom, and 4-bedroom apartment floor plans. Led by students who work for Aspire, PURA members toured a demonstration 4-bedroom, 2-bath unit as well as common areas of the complex, which include outdoor seating areas with fire pits, a fitness center, common meeting/study areas, and the newly opened Crave food court, which is open to the public.

Members were impressed with the facility which offers a smartphone video intercom system, key fob security access, wifi, and other perks such as the ability to have pets for students (or anyone) who are interested in apartment living right in the heart of campus. Aspire has helped Purdue by providing overflow space for the Purdue Residence Halls, and while the Union Club Hotel is being renovated, Aspire is also providing short-term guest rentals that operate similarly to Airbnb, to help with accommodations for football game fans and others.



# October Campus Calendar

## Academic:

- Oct. 7-8**—October Break. No classes. Campus offices remain open.  
**Nov. 28-29**—Thanksgiving Break. No classes; campus offices are closed.

## Special Events:

- Oct. 10—Artivism and Reproductive Rights: A Discussion with Favianna Rodriguez**, executive director of CultureStrike national arts organization and social justice activist in Oakland, California. Arts activism. Organizer: Latino Cultural Center. 6:00 p.m. Krannert Building, Krannert Auditorium (Room 140).
- Oct. 11—Aloha Fridays Cooking Demonstration.** Organizer: Native American Educational and Cultural Center. Staff and students will “talk story” about the importance of traditional Hawaiian foods. 1:00 p.m. At NAECC, 903 W. Fifth St., West Lafayette.
- Oct. 12—Homecoming Events**  
Homecoming activities and tent row on Stadium Mall. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tailgate American Music Repertory Ensemble. 9:30 a.m. Slayter Center. Public meet and greet with Purdue alumni astronauts (14 of the 25 are expected). Presigned photos available. 9:30-10:30 a.m. On Homecoming Tent Row near Neil Armstrong Hall.  
NASA exhibition: Journey to Tomorrow Traveling Exhibit. Touchscreen and hands-on displays, planet simulator, models, Orion multipurpose crew vehicle, new NASA rocket, moon rock from Apollo 17. 9 a.m.-noon. South side of Lambert Fieldhouse.  
All-American Marching Band. Pre-game “Thrill on the Hill” at 10:30 a.m. (90 minutes before game time). Slayter Center; halftime at stadium; and postgame.  
Giant Leaps concert featuring Big Gigantic with MadeinTYO. 7:30 p.m. Slayter Center/Slayter Hill. Rain location: Elliott Hall of Music. (Part of the Take Giant Leaps campaign finale.)
- Oct. 16—Israel’s Third Historian: Josephus’ Revision of the History of Israel.** Stuart Robertson, continuing lecturer, Hebrew, School of Languages and Cultures. Jewish Studies Noon Lecture and Discussion Series. 12:30 p.m. STEW, Room 313.
- Oct. 24—Dine’ Survival and Resistance in the Old Leupp Boarding School.** Davina Two Bears, speaker. Organizer: Native American Educational and Cultural Center. The history of the Old Leupp Boarding School and how Dine’ children resisted and survived assimilation in the early 20th century. 6:00 p.m. STEW, Room 278.
- Oct. 24—Atonement in the Bible: The Notion and Its Relationship to Easter and the High Holy Days.** Gary A. Anderson, Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame. Organizers: Jewish Studies, Religious Studies programs. 7:30 p.m. Rawls Hall, Room 1057.
- Through October—Purdue Farmers Market.** 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Aug. 8 through October. North end of Memorial Mall. [Suggested parking is Grant Street Garage (pay or “A” permit) or lot between Marsteller and Sheetz at Wood Street (“A” permit)]. Article with information about other local farmers markets:  
<https://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/purduetoday/releases/2019/Q2/purdue-farmers-market-to-return-may-2.html>
- Purdue 150th Celebration Ideas Festival**  
Details at <https://takegiantleaps.com/calendar/>
- Oct. 2—What IF We Could Control the Brain for Better Health?**  
Dr. Walter J. Koroshetz, director of the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and co-director of the NIH Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative. 7:00 p.m. STEW, Fowler Hall. Free.
- Oct. 10—What If We Return to Pluto?** Alan Stern, planetary scientist, space program executive including NASA’s New Horizons mission, aerospace consultant, and author. 6:30-8:00 p.m. STEW, Loeb Playhouse. Free, but tickets required.
- Oct. 15—What IF Breakthrough Technologies Could Make Us Smarter?** “Live Long and Prosper: The Promise of Science (Fiction) and Medicine.” Guoping Feng, Poitras Chair Professor of Neuroscience at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and director of model systems and neurobiology at the Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research at the Broad Institute at MIT and Harvard. 7:00 p.m. STEW, Fowler Hall. Free.

## Music: Free and open to the public, unless noted.

- Oct. 2—Jazz at the Union, fall series.** Ensembles from Bands & Orchestras. 6:00 p.m. PMU, Commons (ground floor). **Also Oct. 16, 30; Nov. 13.**  
**Oct. 3—Duke Ellington Sacred Concert.** Purdue Jazz Band and PMO. 7:30-9 p.m. Long Center, 111 N. Sixth St., Lafayette.

- Oct. 6—Purdue Varsity Glee Club in concert.** 4:30 p.m. The Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts. 1 Center Green, Carmel. Ticket required.
- Oct. 11—Jazz concert.** American Music Repertory Ensemble and Lab Jazz Band. 8:00 p.m. STEW, Loeb Playhouse.
- Oct. 12—Homecoming 2019 Gameday Spirit Events**
- Oct. 13—Purdettes in Worship Service.** 10:45 a.m. Immanuel United Church of Christ, 1529 S. 18th St., Lafayette.
- Oct. 13—Collegiate Band and Fall Concert Band.** 2:30 p.m. Long Center, 111 N. Sixth St., Lafayette.
- Oct. 18-19—Black Cultural Center Coffee House.** Featuring BCC performing arts ensembles. 7:00 p.m. nightly Friday and Saturday. At BCC.
- Oct. 18—Purdue Jazz Band, Purdue Tower of Power Band, and Concert Jazz Band.** 8:00-9:30 p.m. STEW, Loeb Playhouse.
- Oct. 19—University Choir in “Beethoven’s Greatest Hits”** as guests of the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 111 N. Sixth St., Lafayette. Tickets required, available via LSO’s web site: [lafayettesymphony.com](http://lafayettesymphony.com).
- Oct. 20—Purdue Bells in worship service.** 11 a.m. First United Methodist Church, 1700 W. State St., West Lafayette.
- Oct. 25—Swing Dance.** Purdue jazz combos. 8:00-9:30 p.m. Duncan Hall, 619 Ferry St., Lafayette.
- Oct. 26—Indiana All-State Show Choir Concert.** In concert with members of Purdue Musical Organizations. 1:30 p.m., Loeb Playhouse, STEW. Tickets are \$10/person; available for purchase beginning at 12:30 p.m. the day of the concert, Stewart Center box office. (Advance sales are not available.)

## Art: Free and open to the public.

Archives and Special Collections: Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, fourth floor, STEW (enter from HSSE Library).

**Through Oct. 12—“Apollo 11 in the Archives: Selections from the Neil A. Armstrong Papers”** exhibition, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first manned spaceflight that landed on the moon. More information may be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3xhp5sb>  
Semester hours: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Black Cultural Center. 1100 3rd St., West Lafayette. Exhibits open during building hours: academic year hours M-Th 8:00 a.m.—10 p.m., F 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m., closed Saturday, Sun. 2:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

**Through-Dec. 1—“Black American Voices: Featuring the Zamora Collection” and “My View from Seven Feet: Paintings by Joe Barry Carroll.”** Collaboration between BCC and Greater Lafayette. Exhibitions at the art museum, 102 S. 10th St., Lafayette. Free.  
Hours: 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. daily except major holidays.

Robert L. Ringel Gallery. STEW. Hours: 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday (except holidays).

**Oct. 14 – Dec. 7—Ministry of Truth: Art of the Propaganda Poster.** Artworks of varied approaches to influence the viewer; from Purdue Archives and Special Collections, the Tippecanoe County Historical Association and private collections.

Patti and Rusty Rueff Galleries, Pao Hall. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday (except holidays, and closing at 5 p.m. on final day of an exhibition).

**Through Oct. 4—Unusual Message International Poster Exhibition.**  
**Oct. 9 -18—Purdue Student National Art Education Association Exhibition.**

**Oct. 21 – Nov. 15—To-The-Last: 21st Century Shoe Designs.** Chris Francis.

**Oct. 21 – 25—Industrial Design MFA Exhibition.**

## Athletics:

All sports schedules available at: <https://purduesports.com>. Click through to the Home page, then click on **Sports** at the top to see specific sports menu.

**Football:** Ross-Ade Stadium. *Tickets required.*

- Oct. 12**—vs. Maryland. Noon.  
**Oct. 26**—vs. Illinois. Time TBD.

**Women’s Soccer:** Folk Field. Free and open to the public, unless noted.

- Oct. 6**—vs. Wisconsin, 1:00 p.m.  
**Oct. 10**—vs. Ohio State, 7:00 p.m.  
**Oct. 13**—vs. Penn State, 11:00 a.m.

(Continued on page 12)

## Mark Your Calendars! PURA Events

**7 October PURA monthly meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 am.

**Topic:** Destination Mars

**Speaker:** Alicia Benhidjeb-Carayon, Senior PhD  
Candidate, Purdue Aeronautics & Astronautics

**11 October Retiree Flu Shots @** the Turfgrass Center, 1340 Cherry Lane,  
West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**18 October Retiree Flu Shots @** the Turfgrass Center, 1340 Cherry Lane,  
West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**23 October Retiree Flu Shots @** the Kurz Tech Center, 1281 Win  
Hentschel Blvd., West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**25 October Retiree Flu Shots @** the Kurz Tech Center, 1281 Win  
Hentschel Blvd., West Lafayette. 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**30 October PURA Common Read Program**, Swaim Room, Purdue Ar-  
chives, 4th floor Stewart Center, 4:00 p.m. Reservations required, and  
attendance is limited to 30. Contact Hannah Austerman via email  
[jacksonh@purdue.edu](mailto:jacksonh@purdue.edu) or call at 494-7395 to reserve your space.

**4 November PURA monthly meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 am.

**Topic:** Tech Toys & Relevant Technology Topics

**Speaker:** PURA member Scott Ksander

**30 November PURA/Imperial Travel Tour To Louisville “Christmas  
Celebration of Lights” \$99.** Schimpff’s Confectionery, Frazier His-  
tory Museum – 65 Years of White Christmas, and a visit to “Lights  
Under Louisville,” a holiday light display in Louisville Mega Caverns.  
Admission fees are included in trip price. For more information visit:  
<http://imperial-travel.com/celebration-of-lights-nov-30-2019/> and  
for reservations, call Imperial Travel at 765-447-9321.

**2 December PURA monthly meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 am.

**Topic:** John Purdue—Holiday Fun Event

**Speaker:** PURA member and author John Norberg

**6 January, 2020 PURA monthly meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 am.

**Topic:** Lafayette’s Underground Teays River

**Speaker:** Kery Smith, Superintendent, Lafayette Water Works

**3 February, 2020 PURA monthly meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 am.

**Topic:** Current Developments and Future Plans for Lafayette

**Speaker:** Tony Roswarski, Mayor

**22 April, 2020 PURA Purposeful Living In Retirement Conference.** Save  
the Date!



## October Campus Calendar, continued

**Women’s Volleyball:** . Brees Center, Belin Court in Holloway  
Gymnasium. **Tickets required.**

**Oct. 4**—vs. Northwestern, 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 5**—vs. Illinois, 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 25**—vs. Iowa, 7:00 p.m.

**Oct. 26**—vs. Nebraska, 7:00 p.m.

**Women’s and Men’s Swimming & Diving:** Burke Aquatic  
Center.

**Oct. 18**—Gold vs. Black Intrasquad meet. 5:00 p.m.

**Oct. 19**—in Indiana intercollegiates. Noon.

**Oct. 25**—vs. Notre Dame, 7:00 p.m.

Athletic ticket information at:

[purduesports.com/tickets/pur-tickets.html](http://purduesports.com/tickets/pur-tickets.html)

## PURA News

The Purdue University Retirees Association newsletter is published for official retirees of Purdue University, and prepared by the PURA Communications Committee.

**Suggestions or ideas for PURA or the newsletter, and changes of address and email, should be referred to:**

Office of Retiree Affairs  
1281 Win Hentschel Blvd., Suite 1100  
West Lafayette, IN 47906-4182.  
Telephone: 765-494-7395 or (toll free) 877-725-0222.  
Email: [jacksonh@purdue.edu](mailto:jacksonh@purdue.edu).

2019-2020 PURA Communications Committee:

*Chair: Karen Lembcke*

*Members: Connie Bilyeu, Jim Daniel, Jo Thomas*

