



A&F NEWS

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Kovalchick Complex News

By Seth Benalt, General Manager, Kovalchick Complex

The Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex (KCAC) chugged full speed ahead this winter and played host to a symphony of harmonious events for all showgoers and convention seekers. Ticketed events appealing to a variety of demographics made their way to the Arena, while new and annual events booked the Conference Center.

Alvin and the Chipmunks, an entirely new show tour, was introduced to the KCAC on November 6, much to the delight of families and children in the community. Appealing to the country crowd, Trace Adkins marched into town on November 20 and brought his signature baritone to the Ed Fry Arena for all to enjoy. The fourth annual B.E. Taylor show rounded out the holiday season and added new elements to the show, including an outside Festival of Lights for patrons to enjoy.

The Conference Center showed its diversity and appeal as a wedding graced the Ed Fry Arena floor and the first annual Basket Ball was held on the court. The Indiana County Chamber of Commerce once again held its annual luncheon with the attendee count over 500 people. PA State Cheerleading returned and helped support local tourism as the doors burst with more than 6,000 attendees. Wine Fest brought a fresh group of local merchants into the building; a return visit was scheduled for this spring.

IUP Football made a solid run into the playoffs, and the KCAC staff once again managed the music, videos, and scoreboard operations at Frank Cignetti Field as well as marketing and group sales for home events.

The KCAC was proud to be a part of another IUP Winter Commencement in December and successfully hosted over 4,000 graduates, family members, faculty, and staff.

IUP Basketball began in November, as fans filled the stands and watched the opening game activities that included a special banner reveal and presentation celebrating the Crimson Hawks National Finalists.

This spring, the KCAC will have a joint celebration as the KCAC marks its fifth anniversary along with the Harlem Globetrotters, an iconic show that is entering its ninetieth year. Shows, events, and competitions will continue and will include IUP Men's and Women's Basketball games, Flonationals Wrestling, and an exciting line-up of soon-to-be announced shows.

The KCAC staff is passionate about creating a positive impact not only within the building but also in surrounding communities. Charitable initiatives included support of the American Cancer Society through several ventures. These included participation in Relay for Life, the Indiana Grocers Against Cancer event, and raising funds for the organization via ticket sales through IUP Football. New this year, a Thanksgiving Food Drive was held in conjunction University Square and the Chevy Chase Community Center. The KCAC also hosted a holiday toy drive in conjunction with the *Indiana Gazette's* Angels' Wings gift program, IUP Basketball, and ICCAP. Donations were significant and helped support the program in its final-stage collection efforts.



Relay for Life Handoff

By Craig Bickley, Associate Vice President for Human Resources



After several successful years of the A&F Division's Relay for Life team being led by Sam Phillips, the torch has been passed to the crew in Human Resources to lead the effort. While we plan to continue some of the very successful fundraising activities like the luncheon, we also will be bringing back some approaches from the past and introducing some new ones. One of our primary goals this year is to expand our "walker" participation. To that end, we will be challenging departments and colleges across campus to join our team and "get your walk on." Please put [Friday-Saturday, May 13-14](#) on your calendar. The Relay will be held at the [Indiana White Township Recreational Park](#). The event supports cancer research and celebrates the lives of both survivors and those who have lost their battle with cancer. Whether you personally have battled cancer, or have a loved one or colleague that has fought the battle, please help us celebrate lives!

Pathway Shelter Donation

By Craig Bickley, Associate Vice President for Human Resources

This was the first year Human Resources sponsored a Christmas donation drive for the Pathway Shelter here in Indiana. Over the month of December, campus staff donated 620 items. Thank you to all who donated. We plan to make this an annual event, so we know the target to beat for 2016. Shown here are HR staff members Angela Phillips, Lorie Albright, Brittany Davis (student), Brittany Weaver, and shelter director Marlene Meager.



Winter Pet Safety

By Susanna Sink, Associate Vice President for Finance

As I listened to the latest forecast on Juno's path to slam the East Coast with rain, ice, and snow, I was reminded that as we prepare for bad weather, we need to be thinking of safety for our pets as well.

Just like people, animals can tolerate varied temperatures based on their health, body fat stores, activity level, and coat. You should be aware of your pet's limitations. Dogs and cats are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia just like we are. Protect them by dressing them in a coat or sweater, and keep these clothing articles dry. Wet coverings will make them colder. Check their paws frequently for signs of damage or bleeding, as ice accumulation between the toes/pads may cause pain and lameness. You should also protect them from poisoning by wiping their feet and bellies, as they may pick up traces of antifreeze or other chemicals that if ingested could be deadly. If you are thinking of trying to use protective booties on your pet, try slipping baby socks on their paws to get them used to feeling something on their feet. If they won't keep the socks on, don't invest in expensive pet booties; they won't leave those on either.

Because you will be spending more time indoors with your pet, make sure your home is pet-safe. Keep medications, household chemicals, potentially toxic foods (onions and chocolate), and plants out of reach. Many household plants are poisonous if ingested by certain animals. Limit the use of space heaters in the areas where you keep your pets. If you are unable to keep your pets indoors, make sure you provide them with a warm, solid shelter from the wind and weather. Make sure they have fresh water and food and that their bedding is thick, dry, and changed regularly. Keep your pets away from frozen ponds or other standing water, as you can never be sure if the ice will support the weight of your pet. Puppies and kittens, as well as older dogs or cats, do not have the metabolism, fat, or fur coat that they need to stay warm, so don't allow them to remain outdoors.

Last but not least, keep your pets current with all vaccinations and preventative care exams. Cold temperatures may intensify medical conditions such as arthritis.

Enjoy the winter season, and stay warm!



Bystander Intervention

By Kevin Thelen, Director of Public Safety and University Police

Everyone is impacted by crime, regardless if he or she is the actual victim. As a focal point in our society, crime is central to governmental policy decisions, public allocations and expenditures, and media discussions, and it is a key area of public interest and perceptions of community safety. If we agree the previous statements are true, it follows the questions then become: "Why isn't everyone partnered with law enforcement toward prevention? What is it, specifically, that causes someone to be a passive community member on an issue that everyone clearly aligns with?"

In order for any given community to reduce crime, a culture of intolerance of crime must be created and maintained among its members. To create this culture, it will be necessary to have many components and functions in place, including strong policies and laws, effective enforcement/sanctions, and victim support, as examples, in order to operate from a solid foundational base. However, probably the most overlooked component of a community's culture of intolerance towards crime – or positive perception of community safety, to be more optimistic – is to provide resources for the nonoffending members of the community. In most communities, there are far more individuals who are not committing crimes than those that are; an effective strategy therefore would be to mobilize and engage the law-abiding community members to shift the community norms to an active intolerance of crime and, ultimately, crime reduction.

- When we speak of a "bystander," we are describing community members who are aware that crime is happening and are, therefore, in a position to take action to reduce crime. The remaining challenge is how to get community members involved in a realistic manner. Many people consider crime prevention to involve only time-intensive commitments to things like neighborhood watch programs or other community organizations when, in reality, it can be as simple as preventive actions like the following.
- When you and friends travel off campus, designate someone to ensure you all come back to campus together. If you see someone trying to isolate an intoxicated student, ask others for help in intervening and then ensure the student is returned to friends or back to campus. If it's not an immediate-action issue, consider leaving an anonymous message on the IUP Police Department Tipline at (724) 357-2255.
- The primary lens of law enforcement is focused on victims and perpetrators, and these are the two access points that are communicated to the general public in brochures, websites, talking points, and education programs. With a historical emphasis on risk reduction (targeting potential victims) and enforcement (focused on perpetrators), many community members who do not consider themselves part of either group feel there is no role for them in crime prevention. However, bystanders need to understand they play a critical and positive role in preventing crime, in keeping others from getting hurt, and in creating a safer community. Be engaged, report crime, intervene when it can be done safely, and watch out for one another.

- We've all seen situations where a crime event was taking place and bystanders didn't intervene to stop it or to assist the victim(s). We've perhaps even said to ourselves or others, "What kind of person could just stand there while someone was getting hurt?" Right? Actually, there are a number of barriers (universal, social, personal/cultural) to intervention as a bystander, and it doesn't make that bystander apathetic or bad; it just makes him or her human. As a community, we need to acknowledge the inability for some to intervene because 1) no one will intervene every time and 2) it creates an opportunity to engage these community members to consider alternatives or solutions. It's time to move past the "do-the-right thing" type of slogans and understand that catchy marketing phrases won't overcome peer pressure, fear, distrust, or even shyness. With safety as the primary concern, consider into what category you may fall as a bystander, depending on the situation:
 - ◇ Direct interaction with the people involved in the situation. This is for the bystander who feels safe and comfortable checking in or addressing the potential victim or perpetrator. Be prepared to politely, but firmly, express your concerns; offer to give a ride home; let the perpetrator know if he or she doesn't back off, the police will be called.
 - ◇ Delegating someone else to get involved can be just as effective. It's less important who intervenes and more important that someone does. Delegating can be as simple as asking a friend, bartender, or family member or calling on a group of people to intervene. Or, as always, it's as close as dialing 911.
 - ◇ Distraction or diversion can sometimes settle or defuse a situation, minimize harm, or create a delay until law enforcement can arrive. Be creative when creating a distraction or diversion – the point here is to help others out of a potential crime situation and to help our community members know they don't have to pull someone out of a burning building to be positive bystanders.
- Let's move past the seemingly inevitable notion that current rates of crime and/or violence must be rising. After all, why would we ask community members to be positive bystanders if we didn't all think it would make a difference? Let's all be community members with a positive orientation and lead with the belief that a vision for a safer community can become a reality. No one has to do everything, but if everyone does something, we can reduce crime on this campus.

Born into the Love of Trains

By Bob Deemer, Budget Director

My love of trains started shortly after I was born. My dad built a Lionel train display on a four-by-eight-foot platform for Christmas. I was about one week old, and my parents had my sister sit in the middle of the display and hold me as the train ran around us. I still have that picture from December 1956.

I started my first display in 1970. It was in our family room on an eight-by-four-foot piece of plywood. I had three HO trains running at the same time with lighted buildings and an automated windmill. I took the display down in 1975 when I started college. I still would add a few things to my collection each year until my children were born (1982 and 1984). For about the next 20 years, my train passion would be limited to a couple of trains around our Christmas tree.

In 2004, I was able to purchase a small parcel of property behind my house. I built a 50-by-56-foot garage to house my camper and satellite communications business, with a second floor for my future train display. My dream was about to begin.

In 2011, I started building 50 eight-by-four-foot tables. It took about two and a half years to complete construction of all the tables. I started the first display in 2013. It is a G scale train layout that is 48 feet by 12 feet. It is about 25 percent complete. All the track and wiring are complete. Presently, I can run nine trains at the same time. When the layout is completed, there will be 11 trains running at the same time. The first and second levels have been completed. I made each rock on the mountains individually.



Animation is a must on my train display. I have added push buttons to start animation and sounds on the layout. On the top level (highest mountain), I have a sawmill with a logging train circling the mountain. There is a push button on the side of the layout; when pushed, it starts the sound of cutting wood in the sawmill. The second level has three action buttons. One starts the ringing of the church bell for a wedding, and another starts the



band playing in the gazebo. Also, there is a toggle switch to start a windmill. All buildings, including the gazebo, have installed lighting.



Yet to be completed are a working drive-in theater showing the movie *Grease*, three working wind turbines, a working oil rig, animal sounds in a barn, working railroad lights and crossing gates, police cars with working emergency lights, a hot-air balloon, etc.

Once this display is finished (in a projected two years), I will be starting the 0 gauge layout. This layout will be 48 feet by 8 feet. It will have more animation than the first layout. There will be a working McDonalds, an animated fire station, two houses on fire (smoke and light), working amusement park rides, and much more to come.



The last layout, which will be my retirement project, is an HO-scale display. This layout will be 48 feet by 8 feet, expanding to 12 feet.

As you can see, my parents had no idea what they started when they laid their newborn in the middle of a train display. The dream continues.



Finance and Budget Staff wished the Steelers luck in the playoffs

Pittsburgh Steelers





Please welcome the following employees who are new to the Administration and Finance Division:

- Terry Breslawski, director of Procurement Services and Central Stores, October 19
- Paula Lucas, fiscal technician in Office of the Bursar, October 20
- Noel Paulina, custodial worker 1 in Custodial Services, October 26
- Kayla Pitzerell, clerk 2 in University Police/Dispatch, October 31
- Rocco Piccirilli, patrol officer in Public Safety University Police, November 9
- Sherry Borst, custodial worker 1 in Custodial Services, November 10
- Daniel Zack, equipment operator A in Afternoon Maintenance to equipment operator A in Grounds, November 14
- Maryann Eyler, custodial worker 1 in Custodial Services, December 1
- Jennifer Albright, custodial worker 1 in Custodial Services, January 19
- Sean Weaver, patrol officer in Punxsutawney to patrol officer in University Police/Investigation, January 23
- Rodney Stenman, custodial worker 1 in Custodial Services, January 26

Denise Baker-Simon, CPSM

“Dee” Baker-Simon has attained the designation CPSM (Certified Professional in Supply Management) from the Institute for Supply Management. To qualify for this distinction, a candidate must pass three comprehensive exams that test an individual’s knowledge of supply management. Testing areas include purchasing, logistics, materials management, strategic sourcing, warehousing, inventory control, investment recovery, contract management, and organizational leadership.

In addition to broad-based knowledge, a qualifying candidate must demonstrate a professional background and experience commensurate with the accrediting organization’s standards. Obtaining the CPSM credential is a significant accomplishment for the procurement professional and demonstrates achievement of a remarkable level of understanding and experience in the chosen field.



Please take the opportunity to congratulate Dee on her accomplishment.

Management Team Administration and Finance

Dr. Cornelius Wooten
Vice President

Mr. Craig Bickley
Associate Vice President for Human Resources

Mr. Mike Brown
Associate Vice President for Facilities Management

Ms. Susie Sink
Associate Vice President for Finance

Mr. Sam Phillips
Assistant Vice President for Administration

Mr. Tom Borellis
Special Assistant to the Vice President for Special Projects

Mr. Terry Breslawski
Director of Procurement Services and Central Stores

Mr. Bob Deemer
Budget Director

Mr. Kevin Thelen
Director of Public Safety and University Police

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Break	March 7—March 12
Daylight Savings Time Begins	Sunday, March 13
St. Patrick’s Day	Thursday, March 17
Administrative Professionals Day	Wednesday, April 27
Spring Classes End	Monday, May 2
Final Exams	May 3—May 6
Spring Commencement	Saturday, May 7
Mother’s Day	Sunday, May 8
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30