The Cure to Summertime Boredom:
Check Out Indiana’s Festivals

Not sure how to spend the rest of your summer days? Don’t worry. Indiana is packed full of festivals every week this summer. In Lafayette and West Lafayette alone, there are 15 festivals from June through August.

Check out the Lafayette Journal & Courier to view their online database of 2014 Indiana Festivals. You can enter search criteria such as the dates, city, and cost to find the right festival for you. Enjoy!

Ready to hit the road? Give Zipcar a try!

Zipcar is a member-based car-sharing program that gives Purdue students, faculty, staff, and community members access to cars by the hour or by the day.

Zipcar for universities offers the convenience of car ownership without the hassles of having a car on campus. Get 24/7 access to Zipcars parked across campus!

Simply reserve online, let yourself in with your Zipcard and drive. The hourly and daily rates always include gas and insurance.

You can learn more about Zipcar and see where the Zipcars lives at Purdue at www.zipcar.com/purdue.

*Want to know exactly what “hit the road” means? Check out This Issue’s Idiom on page 3!
Boiler Out: Joyful Service and Learning

By: Elena Shvidko

As Purdue students, we have many opportunities to participate not only in university-sponsored events, but also in activities available in the community of Greater Lafayette. Granted, the university offers programs that give us the connection to the community. Boiler Out is one of such programs.

I’ve been a member of Boiler Out for two semesters. I joined the program because I enjoy volunteering and meeting new people. As a graduate student, it’s not always easy to find time in a busy academic schedule, but the time spent in service is truly rewarding.

I have participated in several service projects, including ushering at the Lafayette Orchestra, serving in the Food Finders Food Bank, sorting out food donations at St. John church.

But the most memorable service project that we had last semester was Valentine singing for senior citizens. Even before the actual “singing performance”, at the rehearsal, I could feel the joy and I could ponder about the beautiful meanings of the songs we were practicing. When we were singing for these men and women, I was looking at their smiling faces and I felt their appreciation for our service. It was truly a touching experience for all of us!

As someone who is interested in the connection of languages and cultures, I encourage international students to participate in cultural service activities and projects offered at Purdue. These activities will give you a great opportunity to learn more about local cultural practices and meet interesting people, which in turn will tremendously enhance your learning experiences and social life in general.

If you want to improve your English communication skills, Boiler Out provides a wealth of opportunities to do it! By interacting with different people, members of the local community and your student peers from other countries, you will be able to practice your communication skills and you will be able to better integrate in this multicultural environment at Purdue.

By participating in Boiler Out activities, I realized that being a college student does not only mean successfully completing your course work. It also includes our contribution to the university we belong to, our participation in the life of the community we are part of, and our exchange of skills, talents, and experiences with other students on campus.

I believe many Boiler Out members have similar experiences. I-Fan Lin, one of the most active members of this organization, shared with me, “I like being in Boiler Out because I can really be close to the Greater Lafayette, meet more people and organizations around here, really experience the cultural difference and make new friends, and experience different „jobs“. And most important of all, I feel I am really really lucky compared to those who really need indeed.”

I hope that other international students at Purdue will seek for opportunities to enhance their experience by doing something beyond the classroom and the library.

Interested in joining Boiler Out? The application period for the Fall 2014 cohort will open at the beginning of the fall semester. Please check the Boiler Out website in mid-August for application instructions.
The Office of International Students and Scholars (ISS) is committed to internationalizing Purdue University by providing service and support to our international community and University departments and offices. ISS seeks to enhance the academic and social experience of students and scholars from abroad through knowledge and expertise in recruitment, admissions, immigration counseling, referral services, and intercultural programming.

Schleman Hall, Room 136
475 Stadium Mall Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2050
Phone: 765-494-5770    Fax: 765-494-685

Business Hours: Monday through Friday* 8:00am—5:00pm

Phone Counselor: Monday through Friday* 8:00am—Noon and 1:00pm—5:00pm

Walk-In Hours: Monday through Friday* 9:00am—11:30am and 1:30pm—4:00pm

General Appointments: Call to schedule an appointment* (Thirty-minute face-to-face appointments with an Immigration Counselor)

*Counselors are not available on Thursday mornings.

This Issue’s Idiom: Hit the Road

Meaning:
To leave or to begin a journey. To travel, especially on a road trip.

History:
Most forms of human transportation throughout history (walking, driving, or riding animals) have relied on some sort of direct contact with the ground.

The actual process of movement often involves some kind of impact with the road, with feet or hooves, which is generally the reason the word “hit” is used.

The most common use of the term is during a farewell of some kind. If a person has been visiting somewhere and is about to leave, he might say, “I really had a great time visiting, but now I need to hit the road.”

When people use the term this way, it often implies that they have pressing business elsewhere, or perhaps they’ve simply spent too long in one place.

Examples:
“Thanks for dinner, but I think it’s time to hit the road. I have to get up early tomorrow.”

“Let’s hit the road. We’re going on summer vacation to Disneyworld!”

“We’ve been sitting still too long on this project. It’s time for us to hit the road and start making real changes with a new idea.”

***If you are interested in contributing to the ISS Insider, the official newsletter of the Office of International Students and Scholars, we want you! Please email lelacy@purdue.edu for more information.