August 29, 2016

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Safer Labor Day grilling with Purdue-inspired innovation

KOKOMO, IN - After an accident with a conventional grill, Purdue Polytechnic Kokomo student Bryan Miller set out to invent a grill that would greatly reduce the risk of injury to him, his family and his property. Miller’s need-inspired project was completed as his senior design project in engineering technology at Purdue Polytechnic Kokomo. It also met the requirements for an entrepreneurial program launched by Purdue Polytechnic Institute Statewide to inspire and fund student innovations and startups across the state.

To make a better grill, Miller decided to use existing and safer thermoelectric designs using pellets, but he made improvements for portability and cooking temperatures. Prior to Miller’s invention, wood-fired (or pellet) grills would often need to be tethered to an electric outlet, limiting their portability. His new grill, which he will use this Labor Day and has been successfully using for months, requires no external power supply; it uses thermoelectric power to generate energy and stores the energy in a rechargeable battery.

Miller received a Commercialization and Research Grant to help fund his project. “Every class contributed to something in this design,” he says. His invention, complete with a Purdue University look, is featured on the Statewide Innovation website: <https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/statewide-innovation/teg-grilling-system>

**About Purdue Polytechnic Statewide**

Across Indiana, there's a transformation taking place, a new approach to higher education. Where students learn by doing, tackling real-world problems, with business-seasoned faculty mentors, preparing for meaningful careers in industry as entrepreneurs, leaders and makers. The Purdue Polytechnic Institute at Purdue University in West Lafayette offers its programs in nine communities across the state in response to workforce demands. Locations exist in Anderson, Columbus, Indianapolis, Kokomo, Lafayette, New Albany, Richmond, South Bend, and Vincennes.

*Photos of Miller and his grill are available online:* [*https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/newsroom/media-room*](https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/newsroom/media-room)*.*

**For more information contact**

Jeff Griffin, Director, Purdue Polytechnic Kokomo, griffin0@purdue.edu, 765-455-9339

Bryan Miller, mbryan84@yahoo.com, 765-437-4772

###