A Big Thank You

I am fortunate to support an outstanding staff. Some continue to push above our high standards. This past month I had the honor of working closely with staff on a number of projects. Seeing them in action makes me proud to work with them. So much so that they deserve a shout-out:

Sarah Morris – Classroom Wizard, Andrea Wienen, Shannon Tipton and Blair Bagwell – e-Bulider Whizzes, Sarah Boreen and Alli Paul – Social Media Wunderkinds and Kara Phillips - can’t say enough about her. Thanks to all!

Bob Casagrande

STOP THINK ACT
SAFETY

When you practice good driving skills, others will notice, especially if the "others" happen to be your children and other loved ones. You can unwittingly be teaching them positive or negative driving habits.

Be aware of the impact your behavior can have on your children, and think about how this may affect the way they drive. Observing the laws which are designed to keep us safe on the roadways, along with following some common sense rules, may make the difference between a safe and pleasant driving experience and an accident, and it could save your life.

DIVERSITY

Have you ever asked yourself, “Who am I culturally?” This may not be a question that you would ask yourself in the course of your daily routine. However, if you are asked to identify yourself from a cultural perspective, what do you think of first? Is it your gender, your language, or where your family comes from?

Some other ways to think about who you are culturally are through the activities you engaged in during your childhood. For example, what games did you play when you were growing up? You may find that something as simple as the activities you participated in have become a part of your personal culture and who you are.
October Gems

GROUNDS
John Duncan

MAINTENANCE
Bill Bilsing
Pauline Freund

CUSTODIAL
Eva Adams
Christina Moore
Bettie Smith

September Custodial GEM's Winner

Hilda Torres was one of the September Custodial GEM's winners. Hilda is part of the Beutel Health Center Custodial Crew and has been working at AAM since 2002. Hilda is from Guanajuato, and she, her husband and their children visit Guanajuato every summer.

Hilda is very family oriented and most of her activities revolve around her son and daughter. She and her husband enjoy attending their children's sporting events, such as soccer games. As a family, they enjoy going out to eat - one of their favorite places is Olive Garden - and to the movies. When she does get some time for herself, Hilda enjoys jogging. Her dream vacation destination is Hawaii. Hilda truly enjoys her work at Beutel Health Center and works extremely hard to satisfy the customers' needs. Congrats to Hilda on this honor!

2015 Maintenance GEM's of the Year

Larry Luza of the Athletics Maintenance Crew has been selected as the Maintenance GEM's of the Year. Larry is dedicated and loyal to whichever job he is tasked. He takes the time and puts forth the extra effort to do the right thing and performs every job the best he can; he takes pride in his work and it shows. It is easy to judge a tree by its fruit. Larry produces good fruit and it is these qualities which make him a desirable employee. Thank you, Larry, for working hard, being prompt, doing your best, and most importantly, for caring.
SSC Supports the Aggies

SSC employees within Grounds, Maintenance, and Custodial were working the entire game to support our team and provide an excellent representation of SSC at TAMU for the entire Aggie family. Gig ‘em!

Lounge A3 Renovation

The original scope of work was to enlarge the lounge area for students, upgrade the restrooms to ADA, and provide an ADA ramp and entrance. Due to the Cain Hall relocation, the building use changed, and the project was put on an expedited construction schedule (from 12 weeks down to 5-12 weeks) and the drawings were revised mid-way through construction (3 weeks into construction). To build out offices, a waiting room and an admissions counter were added to accommodate the Res Life Department that would be moving in and occupying the space.

Added value: The Residence Life Housing Admissions Office has a stand-alone building in the center of campus that is convenient for incoming students to access. Otherwise, this department would have been relocated to the White Creek modular buildings.

Original Project Schedule: 12 weeks
New Schedule for Cain Hall Relocation: 5½ weeks; Move-In Deadline: Oct. 1st
Revised Drawings Issued: September 11th
Substantial Completion: September 30th
Move-In Started: Oct. 1st
Occupy Space: Oct. 5th

SSC Custodial Services

Custodial Services has been working hard to decrease the amount of accidents on campus. The Custodial Department recorded a 33% drop in claims from last year which means that custodial employees were able to spend more time on the job. Custodial has prioritized safety initiative programs throughout the department. These include the “Stop, think and act” initiative, 5 minute safety talks, meetings for supervisors on safety related topics, and the big incentive – 55” Smart TV giveaway during the Housekeepers’ Week luncheon.
SAFETY is important for the Custodial Department. SSC Custodial Management is proud of all associates for striving to maintain a safe working environment and wishes to thank Resident Regional Manager, Ted Dawson, for his continued dedication and emphasis on safety within the department.

On October 27th, Custodial Services had 4 official Safety Performance Reviews done by John Alaniz and Lou Jacques; the internal score was 100%. This was the department’s first perfect score. Way to go Custodial Services!

2nd Safety Incentive Lunch

The Maintenance Department held its second quarterly safety incentive lunch in the Trades Shop. A hamburger and hot dog lunch was provided for an estimated 200 people. There were numerous giveaway prizes, including a 43" Smart TV, folding chair, personal cooler, safety glasses, cut resistant mechanic gloves, flash light set, and a kitchen knife set. All maintenance shops except for one attended as they had an accident within the past quarter (July - September). The lunch promotes a drive for employees to hold each other accountable to work safe, thus creating a safer working atmosphere for everyone’s benefit. The next lunch will be held in December.