As we kickoff 2017, I hope each of you had a nice holiday break and you’re now ready to start 2017 reinvigorated. The spring semester is starting full blast, and the students are back and have again consumed the campus buildings, grounds, and roadways. Hopefully things will begin to settle into a rhythm in the next week or two. The beginning of a new semester is always hectic.

Our men’s and women’s basketball teams are doing well. The way it looks, it will be a great year for both. Baseball is just around the corner. Our baseball team welcomes both UT and A&M to campus this year.

The legislature is in session in Austin and the new session is moving ahead feverously. It’s too early to tell, but hopefully Texas State University will fare well this year. Keep your fingers crossed.

Please keep up the good work, and thank you for all you do for Texas State University.

★★★★
FACILITIES CORE VALUES – “STARS”

In pursuing our mission, we, the staff of the Texas State University Facilities organization, are guided by a shared collection of values. Specifically, we value:

**Service:** We are committed to excellence in the provision of our services and professional interactions with our customers.

**Teamwork:** We strive for continuous improvement through innovation, collaboration and dialogue with the Campus Community in support of the university’s goals and mission.

**Accountability:** We are responsible for our actions and will conduct business in an ethical and honest manner in compliance with all university policies, and federal, state and local laws and regulations.

**Respect:** We treat each other with respect and dignity and place equal value on every individual.

**Stewardship:** We are conscientious stewards of the resources entrusted to us:

- **Personnel:** We take care of our people, ensuring that they are given the opportunity for professional growth and to work in a safe and welcoming environment.
- **Assets (Physical and Fiscal):** We will do our utmost to maintain the University’s physical assets and do so in a fiscally responsible manner.
- **Environment:** We will protect our sensitive environment.

QUARTERLY TEAM SAFETY AWARD

The Grounds “Bus Route Tree Clearance” team won the Team Safety Award for the July-September 2016 quarter. Pictured above are (left to right): Carlos Pardo, Jr., Raymond Reyes, Ruben Juarez, Tom Shewan, Bentura Vargas, Steve Burt, Robert DeLeon, Alan Harrell, Brad Harrison, and Baldemar Zuniga.
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, CUSTODIAL!

~Kudos to Rose Silva! “...I want to tell you what an amazing job Rose is doing on the 4th floor of JCK. WOW... she is awesome!”... Pat Corley

~Kudos to Rose Silva, Terry Garcia, and Marcus Pacheco! “You(r) people are spoiling me rotten! It’s not enough that we have Rose and Terry on a daily basis to meet our every need, but then Pacheco comes swooping in and makes me look like a total hero by cleaning an ugly spot on the workshop carpet before all of the muckity mucks arrived for Managing at TxState! This morning I had to go up to JCK 11th to prepare for an event and the kitchen up there is pristine! WOW... that makes such a huge difference and I don’t think folk tell y’all how much we appreciate it nearly as often as we ought to.

Soowo... THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!”... Pat Corley

~Kudos to Santos Pineda! “I wanted to send you a note that Santos did a very nice job cleaning my carpet. She notified me ahead of time and requested when a good day was to complete the work. It worked out well since I was going to be out of the office. I will thank her when I see her, but if I don’t run into her, please thank her on my behalf.”... Valerie Van Vlack

HIDDEN QUESTION: Who knows the name of the building in the picture on Page 1? If you do, be the first to let Ann Huebner (ch30) know. She might just surprise you!
The tranquil ponds and towering cypress trees along University Drive are a familiar landmark at Texas State University, but their origins harken back 125 years to a time before our school, when our campus was a wooded hill overlooking small farms and mills along the San Marcos River.

In December of 1891 representatives of the US Commission on Fish and Fisheries traveled the state, seeking to establish a freshwater fishery to restock Texas waters with game. At San Marcos the “Fish Commission” found an idyllic setting which they described in their 1892 report:

Many plants are found in the stream, particularly above the dam, and such species of fish as the large-mouthed black bass, sunfish, and various species of Cyprinoids are abundant. The water of these springs is no doubt well fitted in every way for the culture of the various species of fish that are suited to the streams of Texas. Just below the dam on the right bank of the stream, and right at the edge of the town, is a tract of land of some 25 acres, which lies exceedingly well for the purposes contemplated.

The San Marcos National Fish Hatchery was Texas’ first when established in 1893 on the former W.D. Wood place. Ponds were excavated and pipes laid across the site from east to west, providing a protected habitat for the fish. A dam was built in 1895 and an artesian well tapping into the aquifer was drilled in 1896. By 1899 the distinctive circular pond was in operation, over which the University’s Theater Center would be built 71 years later. Completing the facility were a superintendent’s cottage and the Fish Commission Office, which subsequently served as the University’s Aquatic Biological Center, until relocated to city property south of River House. The hatchery grew to rank 5th in the nation and was noted for the introduction of Tilapia into the US. Expansion of the city and the school led to the closure of the hatchery in 1965 and its transfer to the University. Today the ponds survive as a tranquil respite from the activity of campus and a welcoming setting for the University’s Administration Building.
JUST IN TIME AWARDS

The following Facilities employees received Just in Time Awards this quarter:

**From Utilities:**
- Chris Castro

**From Facilities Mgt.:**
- Phlatt McLean
- Charlie Pardo
- Lindsey Sinner

**From FPDC:**
- Fred Maddox
- Missy Mears
- Aaron Noto
- Pascuala Roque
- Amy Thomas
- Kenny Wattinger

**From Custodial:**
- Iliana Camarillo
- Justin Cervantez
- Delia Gonzales
- MaryAnn Hollingsworth
- Jeremy Nybro
- Felipa Prado

**From Facilities Ops:**
- John Brotze
- Beth Welch

**From Grounds:**
- Rolando Bolanos
- Adrian Castileja
- Adam DeLeon
- Albert Gomez
- Robert Alan Harrell
- Arnold Hernandez
- Frank Lopez
- Juan Maldonado
- Raymond Martinez
- David Pardo
- Sam Perez
- Joyce Phillips
- Joe Rodriguez
- Josh Romero
- Greg Sanchez
- Electro Zuniga

**FSS Team Award**

In January 2017, FPDC staff members Nate Wensowitch, Joe Murphy, and Larry Miller received the FSS Team Award for their efforts to increase chilled water to east campus. “The expansion of Strahan would require additional chill water in order to meet the ‘basis of design’ for the finished expansion. At the same time it was determined that the East Chill Plant could not provide the necessary chill water. A separate project was initiated to design and build a new chill plant on the east side of the river to serve University Events Center and Jowers. The complete task before them was equal to a 17% increase in the scope of work, and the deadline DID NOT CHANGE. The courage reflected in this team to take on the challenge, deliver a solution that was certain to face scrutiny, and achieve the predetermined deadline of delivering the design to the August 2016 BOR meeting was what drove this team to success.”

**CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!**

**NEW HIRES**
- Daphne Helms, Buyer III, Facilities Management
- Alberto Maldonado, A/C Mechanic I, Facilities Operations
- Matthew Menchaca, Facilities Maintenance Worker I (Night Shift), Facilities Operations
- Roy Mendoza, Painter I, Facilities Operations
- Gregory Hode, Electrician I, Facilities Operations

**RETIREEs**
- Juan “Johnny” Picasio, Head Electrician
- Barry Buscha, Head A/C Mechanic
- Pauline Alvarez, Custodian
SAFETY STAR AWARDS 2016

Facilities named the recipients of the Safety Star Awards for 2016 at the staff appreciation luncheon held in December 2016. Pictured from left to right are:

Tom Shewan, AVP for Facilities
Chris Castro, Power Plant Operator (Utilities)
John Brotze, Electrician II (Fac Ops)
Carlos Pardo, Auto Mechanic Assistant (Fac Mgt)
Robert Alan Harrell, Grounds Maintenance Worker II (Grounds)
Delia Gonzales, Custodian (Custodial)
Nathan Lawrence, Asst. Dir. Grounds, and Safety Committee Chair

Not pictured is Aaron Noto, Construction Coordinator (FPDC)

CONGRATULATIONS!
**WELLNESS CORNER**

REMINDER ABOUT WELLNESS TIME: With supervisor approval, employees are eligible for up to 30 minutes per day of paid release time to attend wellness activities on campus. Workshops coordinated through Professional Development are counted as work time. See UPPS 04.04.32.

For more information about Total Wellness and WellCats, check out their website at: [http://www.totalwellness-sanmarcos.com/texas-state-wellness.html](http://www.totalwellness-sanmarcos.com/texas-state-wellness.html)

**Tech Corner - Office 365**

In late December, Technology Resources updated email and Office 365. Below are a few helpful tips to navigate the challenges of the recent change.

Bobcat Mail has been decommissioned and moved to Office 365. Office 365 is a newer version of Office that has added features and security (information about Office 365): [http://www.txstate.edu/Office365](http://www.txstate.edu/Office365).

To access your email and other Office 365 applications, log into Office 365 by going to [http://www.txstate.edu/Office365](http://www.txstate.edu/Office365) and click on the LOGIN link:

Your username is your fully qualified email address: **netid@txstate.edu**

You will use the same password to login to your computer and email.

Once you log in you should see the following window. To access Outlook, click Mail.

If you see this window (below) instead, simply click Office 365 to go to the main window.

You can customize the appearance of your email by clicking on the settings button in the upper right hand corner and choose Theme. Make sure to save by scrolling down and clicking on the save button.

If you have questions, contact the Facilities Management Systems group or ITAC help desk at [FMSystems@txstate.edu](mailto:FMSystems@txstate.edu). Enjoy
The University held their annual Arbor Day event on November 18, 2016, when they planted a variety of trees, including Pecan, Dogwood, Smoketree, and Texas Redbud. As a result of this effort, the University has been recertified by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Campus USA school, continuing this recognition since 2011.
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, February 2**
  Groundhog Day
- **Tuesday, February 14**
  Valentine’s Day
- **Monday, February 20**
  President’s Day
- **Wednesday, March 1**
  Ash Wednesday
- **Thursday, March 2**
  Texas Independence Day
- **Sunday, March 12**
  Daylight Savings Time begins
- **Monday-Friday, March 13-17**
  Spring Break
- **Friday, March 17**
  St. Patrick’s Day
- **Friday, March 31**
  Cesar Chavez Day
- **Friday, April 14**
  Good Friday
- **Sunday, April 16**
  Easter Sunday
- **Friday, April 21**
  San Jacinto Day
- **Saturday, April 22**
  Earth Day
- **Wednesday, April 26**
  Administrative Professionals Day

CONGRATULATIONS to Juan Romero (Utilities Analyst) and his wife, Leticia, on their second gift from God. Lukas Kilian blessed their lives weighing 7.4 pounds and measuring 20 inches long at birth.

In addition to having a newborn, Juan is a proud US Naval Officer. He recently made the change from Enlisted to Officer when he was sworn in as a CWO-2 in November 2016.

Quality, Responsive Service: Making a Difference at Texas State

Facilities would like to thank all who contributed to this newsletter.