The spring of 2021 is a time of hope at Texas State. Although many of us are still fearful and fretful when it comes to the coronavirus, each passing day seems to bring another reason to believe there is light somewhere at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel. Case counts are slowly declining, positivity rates are not surging, and vaccines are becoming easier to access.

As I write this article, the university is poised to host its first coronavirus vaccination event for 800 lucky souls. We hope to make this a weekly occurrence and to grow to vaccinate even more people per week in the coming months. I can see a day, not too far off, when everyone who wants a vaccination in our community will have one.

Continued on page 8...
DATES TO REMEMBER

April

Apr 1
- April Fools’ Day
- Maundy Thursday

Apr 2
- World Autism Awareness Day
- Good Friday
- Walk to Work Day

Apr 4
- Easter Sunday

Apr 6
- International Sport Day

Apr 7
- United Nations’ World Health Day

Apr 11
- National Pet Day

Apr 13
- Thomas Jefferson’s Birthday

Apr 15
- Tax Day

Apr 21
- San Jacinto Day (Texas)
- Administrative Professionals Day

Apr 22
- Earth Day
- Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

Apr 28
- World Day for Safety and Health at Work

Apr 30
- International Jazz Day

May

May 5
- Cinco de Mayo

May 6
- National Day of Prayer

May 9
- Mother’s Day

May 11
- Eat What You Want Day

May 13-15
- Texas State Commencement

May 15
- International Day of Families
- Peace Officers Memorial Day
- Armed Forces Day

May 21
- World Day for Cultural Diversity

May 22
- National Maritime Day

May 25
- National Missing Children’s Day

May 28
- National Brisket Day

May 31
- Memorial Day (Texas State Holiday)

June

Jun 1
- Global Day of Parents
- First Day of Summer I Classes

Jun 6
- D-Day
- National Cancer Survivors Day

Jun 14
- Army Birthday
- Flag Day

Jun 15
- Extended Tax Deadline

Jun 18
- National Splurge Day

Jun 19
- Emancipation Day (Texas)

Jun 20
- World Refugee Day
- First Day of Summer
- Father’s Day

Jun 23
- Public Service Day

Jun 30
- International Asteroid Day

MEET OUR NEW TEAM

Saidat Adelakun
Administrative Assistant I
Procurement and Strategic Sourcing

Gordon Bohmfalk
Director
Facilities Planning, Design & Construction

Charles Crawford
Sergeant
University Police

Michael Kocay
Plant Mechanic II
Utility Operations

Shelly Malagarie
Accounting Clerk II
Accounting Office

Alexandra Reyna
Human Resources Assistant
Human Resources

Ana Sanchez
Dispatcher
University Police

Virginia Turrubiarte
Contract Specialist
Procurement and Strategic Sourcing

Louis West
Dispatcher
University Police

Have an idea... a question... a concern? Eric Algoe will host virtual monthly Brown Bag sessions on the following dates:

Wednesday, Apr 7
Treasurer & Student Business Services
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 5
Environmental Health Safety & Risk Management
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Jun 2
Utilities Operations
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Neither commencement traffic, nor trains, nor COVID-19 stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.

Hidden in the Print and Mail Services Warehouse on Old Ranch Road 12 there is a hive of activity. Texas State University’s own post office as well as a full service print shop exist to serve not only the campus, but also the San Marcos community at large.

Thirteen hardworking TXST employees and several student employees staff this facility as well as the on-campus hub known as Copy Cats. Both locations house state of the art printing and mailing equipment. Official Texas State University letterhead, stationery and business cards are executed on a special press capable of printing the Pantone colors of the university including metallic gold. They keep up to date with the latest branding information using the correct logos and statements.

In addition to stationery, Print and Mail Services offers a variety of printing capabilities. Whether it is large format posters, 10,000 brochures, or personalized pieces like name cards and certificates, Print and Mail Services make the projects worry free and budget friendly.

Housed under one roof, Print and Mail Services can design and coordinate a printed piece with many different mailing options. From presorting to first class mailing, Print and Mail Services will print the item with the required mailing information to make sure the mailing is as fast and cost effective as possible. Envelope stuffing and hand fixed postage is also an option. Additionally, they deliver and pick up mail on campus and utilize the Old Ranch Road 12 location as a UPS pick up location at 4:00 p.m. daily Monday through Friday. Offering overnight deliveries in the US, it is as simple as dropping off the package. They will do the rest.

Under the Print and Mail Services umbrella, Copy Cats, located below the Nueces Building on campus offers document scanning up to 11x17 inches that can be emailed or uploaded to a USB drive, as well as high quality digital color and black and white copies at a fast turnaround time. Open to the entire campus, the copy shop does binding, laminating, faxing, as well as offering a notary service & selling postage stamps. It is also a convenient campus drop off for UPS and USPS packages and mail.

Both Print and Mail Services and Copy Cats locations accept departmental IDTs, major credit cards, and cash. Stop by either location to discuss your project, or just to see what the buzz is about!

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**BOBCAT CHATTER**

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What do you think is the greatest invention of all time?

**Rodrigo Manzanares**

Sergeant

*University Police*

"The scientific method."

**Brenna Russell**

Contract Specialist

*Procurement and Strategic Sourcing*

"Electricity. Without it we would not have our other most useful tool...the Internet!"

**Cleve Thorn**

Budget Analyst

*Budgeting, Financial Planning & Analysis*

"The greatest invention of all time is the human being. The Spork is a close second."
“Ever since my parents took me on a driving vacation, visiting every historic site from Texas to Philadelphia, I’ve had an interest in history. At Texas A&M the library was my second home. I spent hours there doing research – some of which was even applicable to my classes! In 1995 I helped prepare Historic American Building Survey plans for the Harris-Martin House in Anderson, Texas and the following year I lead another team to record the Union Trading Post in Fort Davis, Texas, a project which grew in complexity when we discovered that it was not a single building but a complex covering a city block incorporating stone, adobe and wood-framed buildings, a steam engine, a hand-operated elevator, exposed archeological remains, a gunpowder house, underground links to the town’s secret tunnel network and traces of a not-so-secret old west “cathouse”!

We dived in teaching ourselves surveying, elevator repair and spelunking and in the process, we won the National Park Service’s Peterson Prize for our efforts! That year I also wrote a paper about Galveston’s Fort Travis that received the Rayford Stripling Award.

I’ve been fortunate to be able to combine my passion for history with my work. After receiving a Master’s Degree in Architecture and Certification in Historic Preservation, I found employment with Graham B. Luhn, Architect where we restored historic train stations in Alvin and Richmond as well as schools, churches and courthouses.

In 1999 I joined the Texas Historical Commission covering Federal and State projects, grants, Section 106 review and Preservation Tax Credit projects. This was a fun time as I explored and assisted with numerous historic structures in various states of decay. To help with my work, I created the “Postcards from the Past” collection of historic images of Texas buildings as well as a “Historic Texas Architects” database to aid researchers and THC reviewers.

In the THC’s Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program, I guided projects from inception – selling the concept to a skeptical county commissioners’ court – through construction, doing historical research all along the way. I assisted in the restoration of courthouses in Harris, Dallas, Comal, Lavaca, Wharton, Fayette, DeWitt, Colorado, Kendall, Lee, Edwards, Bee, Goliad, and Bexar counties and advised on many others. In the process I assembled a comprehensive collection of all of the known historic images, plans and specifications of Texas courthouses to ensure that our restoration projects met the highest standards of authenticity.

Continued on page 6...
**Enchilada Casserole**

**Yield:** 8 servings

**Ingredients**
- 2 lb ground beef
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 (8oz.) can tomato sauce
- 1 (10oz.) can hot or medium enchilada sauce
- 2 can water
- ½ tsp chili powder
- ½ tsp pepper
- ¼ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp dried whole oregano
- 12 red corn tortillas
- 2 cups (8oz.) shredded cheddar cheese or Velveeta divided

**Directions**
1. Cook ground beef and onion in a large skillet until browned. Drain grease.
2. Add the tomato sauce and next 6 ingredients: mix well.
3. Bring to a Boil; reduce heat, and simmer for 5 minutes.
4. Place half of tortillas in a 13x9x2 inch baking dish.
5. Pour half of meat mixture over tortillas.
6. Sprinkle half of cheese over meat mixture.
7. Repeat layers with tortillas and meat mixture.
8. Bake at 350 for 20 minutes.
9. Sprinkle with remaining cheese, and bake additional 5 minutes.

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**Rosemary Lemonade**

**Prep:** 10 min.
**Cook:** 15 min. + chilling
**Yield:** 8 servings

**Ingredients**
- 2 cups water
- 2 fresh rosemary sprigs
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1-1/4 cups fresh lemon juice
- 6 cups cold water
- Ice cubes

**Directions**
1. In a small saucepan, bring 2 cups water to a boil; add rosemary sprigs. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, 10 minutes.
2. Remove and discard rosemary. Stir in sugar and honey until dissolved. Transfer to a pitcher; refrigerate 15 minutes.
3. Add lemon juice; stir in cold water. Serve over ice. If desired, top with additional lemon slices and rosemary sprigs.

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**Pineapple Coconut Cake**

**Ingredients**

**Cake:**
- 1 box white cake mix
- 1-20 oz. can crushed pineapple, well drained (save 1 cup juice)
- 1/3 cup oil
- 3 eggs

**Toppings:**
- 1 box vanilla instant pudding
- 1 ½ cups cold milk
- 2 cups thawed Cool Whip
- Coconut
- Drained pineapple

**Directions**
1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Grease and flour 13x9 pan.
3. In a large bowl combine cake mix, 1 cup pineapple liquid, oil and eggs at low speed until moistened.
4. Beat 2 minutes at high speed.
5. Stir in ½ cup drained pineapples.
6. Pour batter in prepared pan.
7. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes or until cake springs back when lightly touched in center.
8. Cool completely.
9. In large bowl combine pudding mix and milk at low speed until blended.
10. Fold in whipped topping and remaining pineapple.
11. Spread over cool cake.
12. Top with coconut.
13. Refrigerate until serving.

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**Do you have an amazing recipe you would like to share? The FSS Newsletter committee would love to hear from you! Send your recipe and pictures to VPFSS@txstate.edu to be included.**
We are all part of the Texas State Community. A community is defined as a group of people with diverse characteristics linked by social ties, share common perspectives, and engage in joint action. Our community is generally defined by our mission to create and promote a learning environment and experience.

A welcoming and inclusive community is a community where its members feel safe, respected, and comfortable, where each member can express themselves and all aspects of their identities without fear or regret. A place where each person shares a sense of belonging. It is home.

Building an inclusive community is not easy. It requires a commitment built on honor, integrity, and moral courage, embracing opportunities created by diversity and inclusion. It is appreciating all perspectives, understanding limitations, values, and outlooks. It takes time, patience, perseverance, and courage to sustain such a community because it is about transforming attitudes, behaviors, and policy.

Most organizations make a conscious effort to promote community. Truly successful organizations are really adapted at creating a culture that fosters community. They also understand the importance of diversity and inclusion as an integral part of nurturing the community. Studies show that diverse and inclusive organizations outperform similar organizations in every case.

The power of community is only as effective as the effort and commitment of each member. Individuals bear some responsibility. Systems and policies do not work without members implementing and living them out. The mindset shifts from rhetoric to accountability. Like a University’s commitment to academic excellence, embracing a genuine effort to understand distinct perspectives and learning to value and respect differences is of equal importance.

It is the responsibility of staff and educators to nurture and foster the development of an inclusive community. We should be committed to unlocking the power of community, one that encourages intellectual curiosity, respectful dialogue, and personal growth. Harboring a safe place where we share the values of kindness, empathy and respect. This is home.

And I enjoyed helping historians with research on several books. The program won the Preserve America Presidential Award and awards from the National Trust and the Texas Society of Architects. I even was able to make an appearance in the Texas Foundation for the Arts’ documentary, “The Golden Age of Texas Courthouses, featuring the Wharton County Texas Courthouse” on YouTube.

In 2005 I decided to build a model of the US Navy’s first battleship, the 1895 USS Texas. The USS Texas had been renamed the USS San Marcos in 1911 and, as I was living here in San Marcos, what better than build a model of the ship named after my town? This research culminated in a book, “Old Hoodoo” The Battleship Texas: America’s First Battleship 1895-1911. I still haven’t finished that model though.

These days when not chasing the kids, I volunteer at the Pioneer Flight Museum where my recent projects include researching and constructing a full-scale replica Renault FT tank and a replica 1914 Morgan 3-wheeled car. I also provide research assistance to David Fletcher of the Tank Museum in England.

I love history, especially historic buildings and technology. It is my aspiration here at Texas State University to see Old Main and other historic buildings on campus restored to their former glory!”
AND THE WINNERS ARE...

October 2020 Texas State Quarterly Team
COVID-19 Transport Team
EHSRM: Shea Cockrell, Colleen Cook, Grant Davis, James Frye, Lynn Lindsay, Elsie Romano, LaDonna Tate, and Chad Thomas


January 2020 Texas State Quarterly Team
Clean, Disinfect, & Sanitize Classrooms / Restrooms Team
Custodial Operations: Mike Aleman, Maria Alvarez, Bruce Banks, Rick Boasi, Illiana Camarillo, Blanca Castillo, Delfia Chavarria, George Ferrer, Margie Flores, David Garcia, Delia Gonzales, Maria Gonzales, Sally Harris, Maria Hernandez, Val Marrero, Candy Martinez, Martin Mercado, Jeremy Nybro, Rosie Ortiz, Mary Pacheco, Felipa Prado, Rodrigo Rodriguez, Robert Roten, Gina Sanchez, Miguel Sandoval, Fermin Torrez, Guadalupe Urrutia, Phillip Vasquez, Phillip Williams, and Steve Williams.

Also nominated:
Carpenter Shop Plexiglass / Sneeze Guards Team
A/C Shop Clean Air Team
Accounts Payable and Travel Office Travel Freeze Team
Voluntary Separation Incentive Program Team

Contracted Workers of the Year

Chris Ellis
Driver of the Year
Transportation Services

Jessina Lopez
Student Associate of the Year
Chartwells

Freddy Torres
Back of House
Associate of the Year
Chartwells

Felix Gallegos
Contract Custodian of the Year
SSC

Elizabeth ‘Liz’ Smith
Manager of the Year
Chartwells

Alex Uribe
Front of House
Associate of the Year
Chartwells

Michael Giese
Chef of the Year
Chartwells

Congratulations!
LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT
...Continued from page 1

To be clear, I don’t want any of us to be so naïve as to think that all our COVID-19 woes are behind us. On the contrary, many of the effects of the disease, along with people getting sick and even dying from it are likely to stretch out for years. The economic impacts will likewise ripple out in time, as will many of the COVID-19-era cultural and workplace norms. For example, I can see a lot more virtual meetings in all of our futures from now on.

Many families’ finances have been hit hard over this past year. Family businesses have closed. Family farms have struggled. The service industry, which employs more people in America than any other, has been decimated. It will take time to erase the damage of COVID-19. Nevertheless, with more than a million more people being vaccinated every day in our country, there is finally hope on the horizon.

With the glimmer of hope growing that we can finally put COVID-19 behind us, I also can’t help but be more optimistic about some of the other challenges we face as a university and a country. For example, getting back to the business that we are best at, providing a world-class, face-to-face college experience, gives me hope that our students’ mental health, emotional, and educational needs can be better met in the year to come.

I am also hopeful that we can make progress toward closing many of the gaps that have been made more obvious in the way in which COVID-19 has differentially impacted some people due to their race, class, or gender. I do not see us turning away from having the frank conversations around these systemic issues that have been needed for decades.

Having survived the worst winter storm that Mother Nature has thrown at Texas in over a century, I believe the Bobcat community is strong enough to boldly enter 2021 with enthusiasm and a commitment to doing great things. I hope you join me in letting just a little bit of optimism into your outlook for the coming year. I have a feeling this is going to be a great year to be a Bobcat.