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Sign Up For PPD Golf Tournament

The annual PPD Golf Tournament is fast approaching, and employees who would like to play should sign up now. The tournament will be held on Friday, November 10th, at Plantation Oaks Golf Course in Alachua, and the entry fee is \$40 per person, which includes greens fee, cart, balls, lunch, refreshments and prizes. Entry forms can be obtained from members of the tournament committee, which includes Eric Cochran, Dan Walker, Chuck Hogan, Kevin Lavin, John Lawson, Marty Werts, and Dolly Warner.

Tournament committee chairman Eric Cochran said, "This tournament has been in existence for almost fifteen years. The purpose of the tournament is to allow PPD and UF employees and our business partners to enjoy a day of golf and camaraderie. To that end, we have been able to keep the cost of entering the tournament low, while still having a lot of fun and giving away good prizes."

Cochran said that employees who enter can do so at any skill level. "This is set up as a fun tournament, and all skill levels are welcome and eligible for prizes," he said. "We have had people who showed up without ever having played a round of golf, and had a great time, and we have others who are skilled golfers, and they have a great time too. The tournament is a scramble format, meaning it is a team event with four-person teams. All four players hit the first shot on a

See GOLF On Pg. 2



HSC Paint Crew

The Health Center paint crew has been hard at work re-finishing the Sun Terrace deck. Maintenance Superintendent Jim Thompson said, "This project has taken many long hours and I want to commend our crew for doing such a great job."

Crew members, left to right: Jessie Matthews, Harley Ingle, Paul McComis, Ben Werts, Charlie Seroki, Danny Moore, Peder Winkle, and Kinney Standridge.

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hole, and then they select the best shot among them. Then all four players hit again from there, choose the best shot again, and so on. The team plays each shot in turn, using this method, until the ball is in the hole. We chose this format because it allows even the least skilled golfers to contribute to the team, and players can have a good time on the course without worrying about each shot.”

The tournament features prizes for the first, second and third-place teams, as well as many different hole prizes and raffle prizes along the way. Prizes are also given out for shots closest to the pin at each hole, and for longest drive. Last year’s tournament featured almost \$1500 worth of prizes given away. Every player who enters the tournament is eligible to win prizes.

Last year, the tournament raised some \$4000 in extra proceeds, and those funds were given to charity. However, Eric Cochran says that is not the purpose of the tournament. “While we have given extra proceeds to charity in the past, this tournament is not a fundraising event, nor do we want it to become one,” he said. “Instead, as we do with other PPD endeavors, we like to contribute a little to charity because PPD employees have big hearts, and see it as the right thing to do.” If there are extra funds after this year’s tournament, Cochran indicated that they would be donated to Ronald McDonald House.

If you would like to play in this year’s PPD Golf Tournament, sign up soon, as space is limited. For more information contact Dan Walker at 392-1405, x. 416.

Plant Answers With KJ

by KJ Green

Q: Dear KJ, what type of plant is a Patient Lucy?

A: A Patient Lucy is an English nickname for the impatiens flower. The Patient Lucy will spray its seeds outward, as if it were impatient to grow. This plant is a good choice for gardeners who want a flowering plant.



Ralph Jenkins recently retired from the Health Science Center Work Management Office, with over 30 years of employment. A reception was held for Ralph at the HSC.

Pictured: Ralph Jenkins and longtime co-worker Mae McCray-Richardson with Ralph’s commemorative plaque.

Educational Opportunity Sessions For Employees To Be Held At Main Street

If you are interested in education opportunities as an employee of the University of Florida, you should attend one or both informational sessions that will be held at Main Street on Wednesday, October 25.

The Employee Education Program will hold a session from 9-10 AM. This session will cover opportunities for full-time UF employees to take college courses at UF, other state universities, or community colleges/vocational institutions.

The GED Program will hold a session from 10-11 AM. This session will inform employees about classes that are available to prepare you to take the GED exam.

If you are interested in either of these programs, please come to Main Street on Wednesday, October 25 to learn more.



OB'Gram: Communication At PPD

by Dave O'Brien

One of PPD's goals this past year has been to communicate to the University community the many important jobs that we do to keep UF up and running. The goal team put together several ideas to inform the public and get a little much-deserved recognition for the Physical Plant. As part of this effort, Fred Gratto, Assistant Director in our Grounds Department, recently gave a presentation at the Reitz Union about how landscaping decisions are made at UF, and how anyone can use that same information to beautify their homes and lawns. The program was open to the public and was attended

by University students and staff as well as visitors from the Gainesville community. We hope that this presentation will be the first of many that PPD will develop, in an effort to familiarize our customers and the University community with our commitment to maintaining the campus, and promoting education and environmental concerns. Our next program will be in early 2007. Harold Barrand, Associate Director in the Architecture/Engineering Department, will lead a discussion about historic buildings and sites on campus and the challenge we face in maintaining and renovating these areas.

If you know of a PPD project that may be of public interest, please let us know and maybe we can include it in one of our publications!

September Communication Breakfast Notes

Vice President of Finance and Administration Ed Poppell addressed the group at September's Communication Breakfast. He talked about his first day working at UF, in 1971, and how far the campus has come since then. Mr. Poppell said that the credit for UF's expansion and improvement over that time is a result of having people working here who believe in the university and are passionate about their jobs. He said that Physical Plant has an outstanding commitment to service, and does a great job – he gets comments and emails all the time congratulating our grounds and buildings.

Mr. Poppell talked about President Machen's priorities and goals for UF. One of his priorities is better salaries for UF employees – currently, 85% of university budget is spent on its employees. Mr. Poppell said that in order to be a top ten public university, which is President Machen's goal, UF needs to be able to retain a top notch staff, and the administration is working towards that end and working to find ways to better compensate university employees.

He mentioned sustainability as a major goal for the President and the university. Sustainability is based on making a difference for the people who will follow us, and ensuring that our children and grandchildren will have the same clean air, water and quality of life that we enjoy.

The east side campus is another priority that Mr. Poppell mentioned – he stated that UF will continue to increase its presence on the east side of Gainesville, and that President Machen wants to see the university community expand to that side of town as well.

Finally, Mr. Poppell thanked Physical Plant employees for their outstanding work, and said that the University of Florida could not be what it is today without all the work that PPD puts in behind the scenes.

Question and Answer:

Q: Will we continue to use time cards to enter our time?

A: We are currently looking at new timecard technology and that is one thing that the administration hopes to address in the next year.

Q: Why didn't I get a merit raise, when I do my job well and I have no complaints from customers?

A: The merit raise system is designed to reward employees who rate an "exceeds" on the new performance appraisal system. If you didn't receive a merit raise, I encourage you to sit down with your supervisor and discuss what you need to do to raise your performance to that level.



Mark Ivanowski and Pam Walker talk about the UF Community Campaign to Systems employees in Main Street. The UFCC committee gave presentations to all PPD departments.

August Employees of the Month:

New Employees

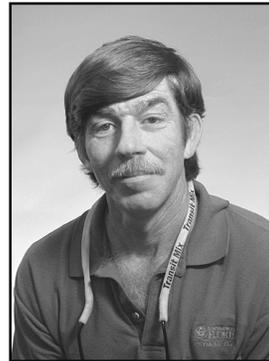
Nicholas Alters, Grounds
Daniel Brass, Building Svcs.
Chris Breen, Grounds
Sherieka Brown, Building Svcs.
Byron Bush, Facilities
Angel Cardec, Facilities
Randolph Cash, Grounds
Samuel Curcio, HSC
Britton Fletcher, Grounds
James Holland, Building Svcs.
Susan Limpert, Quality Ofc.
Danny Maddon, Building Svcs.
Latasha McCray, Building Svcs.
Chad McRae, Grounds
Sammie Oates, Building Svcs.
Benjamin Owen, Facilities
Michael Rutledge, Building Svcs.
Audrey Sherman, Building Svcs.
Martha Smith, Building Svcs.
Paul Skinner, Building Svcs.
Kenneth Stokes, Resource Mgmt.
Yolanda Upchurch, Building Svcs.
Timothy Vaught, HSC
Robyn Wright, Building Svcs.

Promotions

Joann Johnson, Building Svcs.
Kevin Lavin, HSC
Jian Quipping, Resource Mgmt.
Raymond Thompson, Building Svcs.



Jim Brillhart



Paul Coleman
Facilities



Pat Runge
Systems



Russell Seay
Grounds



Martha Smith
Building Services



Dorothy Thomas
Building Services

Not Pictured: Edman Kelly,
Building Services

Lue Rose,
Building Services