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In This Issue:

**UF Smoking Policy
Changes**

**Leroy Strappy
Retirement**

**Building 702
Holiday Luncheon**

Multiple Departments Contribute To Bartram Hall Cleanup

A collaborative effort by several PPD departments, involving over thirty employees, helped stop a major water leak, and repair the damage it caused, in Bartram Hall over the Martin Luther King Day holiday weekend. The leak left standing water on all six floors of Bartram, destroyed most of the ceiling tiles in the building, and required a complete power shutdown. Yet thanks to the combined efforts of PPD's Systems, Building Services, and Facilities employees, Bartram Hall was cleaned, repaired, and ready to host classes by the time students returned on the following Tuesday.

Sr. Electronics Tech Dwayne Jones of Systems was on call on Friday, Jan. 12, and received a call from Work Management that a fire alarm had gone off at Bartram-Carr Hall. Upon responding to the area, Jones met with a UPD officer, who informed him that he needed access to the penthouse mechanical room on the roof of Bartram, because he could hear rushing water coming from the roof.

"We went up there and opened the mechanical room, and found a fire sprinkler head which had been spraying water into an air duct," said Jones. "There was almost a foot and a half of standing water in there, and at that point water had already leaked through the roof and all the floors were flooded. The officer and I went downstairs and met up with the fire department, which had just arrived. They wanted power to the building shut off before they would go in, and our on-call electrician was having to drive from Williston and wouldn't be there for another half-hour. So I made the decision to go down to the first floor and shut the power off from the

secondary breakers there, and also shut the water off so the sprinkler would stop flooding the place."

The firemen entered the building, but found no evidence of a fire. Meanwhile, Building Services personnel had been alerted to the leak. Superintendent Dana Simmons, who was on-call Friday night, said, "With no power in the building and no elevator access, we had to carry a generator and flood pumps up the stairs to the roof area to get rid of the water on the roof. We pumped that water over the side of the roof, and then used squeegees and wet-dry vacuums to push the water on the interior floors down the stairwells and out of the

See BARTRAM Cont.

On Pg. 3



Each Christmas, PPD's Holiday Hope initiative helps provide gifts for children from needy families. Employees who helped make this year's Holiday Hope a success were: (front row, left to right) Ruthie Noland, Irene Thomas, Kenya Greene, Beth Farmer, Pam Walker, and Barbara Flynn; (back row, l-r) Dolly Warner, Sherry Martensen, Vivian Raymond, Caron DeWitt, Mamie Austell, Joy Jeffcoat, Dawn Smith, Carla Oliver, Linda Andrews, and Susan Limpert.

UF Expands Outdoor Smoking Restrictions On Campus

Effective on January 22, 2007, the University of Florida expanded its outside building smoking restriction to all campus buildings. Under the expanded restrictions, smoking is now prohibited in areas within 50 feet of all campus buildings. In compliance with the Florida Clean Indoor Air Act of 1992 (Section 386.201 of the Florida Statutes), smoking is prohibited within all UF buildings. For smokers who wish to quit, the Healthy Gators 2010 coalition recommends many resources to help. The Alachua County Health Department (334-8889) offers free nicotine patches to Alachua County residents. Other resources include GatorWell Health Promotion Services, 392-1161, ext 4281, www.shcc.ufl.edu; UF's Employee Assistance Program, 392-5787; the American Cancer Society, 376-6866; the Florida Quit Line, 1-877-822-6669; your health care provider; and internet sites like www.smokefree.gov and www.quitnet.com.



OB'Gram: New Year, New Goals

Welcome to 2007! The University of Florida is Number One in football! And the basketball team is defending national champs! Celebrations after both championships in Gainesville were terrific and, unlike what has sometimes happened during celebrations at other universities, there was no violence or property damage. PPD deserves some of that credit because our Grounds Department helped to prepare ahead of time.

We sometimes forget the impact our services have at UF. This is a huge campus. There are 900 buildings on 2,000 acres. Each year some 50,000 students are enrolled here. We are the largest university in Florida and the 4th largest public university in the country. I don't think it is exaggerating to say that PPD is an important part of what happens here. The teaching, research, patient care, community services and athletics that are all a part of a university would be hard-pressed to be successful without the work we do to provide utilities, energy management, custodial services, landscaping, carpentry, roofing, plumbing, and more.

I suggest that our collective New Year's resolution be to keep this in mind as we continue to provide the best services possible. We will show respect for our jobs, our colleagues at PPD and our customers – the entire UF community.

GO GATORS!!

Building 702 Holiday Party Committee



Once again, the Building 702 Holiday Luncheon committee put together a great spread of food, decorations and an all-around good time. Members of the committee included: (left to right) Keith Feagle, Josh Morris, Dawn Smith, Paul Huntley, Leon Minter, Betty Standridge, Ben Owen, Terry Matchett's two nephews, Gene Watson (kneeling), Erick Burch, Lori O'Steen, Steve Fryman, and Willie Touchton. Not pictured: Caron DeWitt, Jamie Elton, Buster Johnson, and Carla Oliver.

Leroy Strappy Retires From Systems Department

by Ruthie Noland

On Wednesday, December 20, 2006, a smile-filled retirement party was held for longtime PPD Systems worker, Leroy Strappy, at Heat Plant II (now known as Chill Water Plant II). The operation of this plant is extremely critical as it supplies steam and chilled water to the entire Health Science Center complex and a large portion of the campus.

After serving for four years in the US Navy, Leroy came to work at Heat Plant II at the University of Florida in February of 1973 in both Operations as a Boiler Operator and then into Maintenance.

During the course of his career here, Leroy was responsible for Boiler operation and maintenance ('70's), chiller operations and maintenance, cooling tower repair and maintenance for all HPII and CW Plant #9, repair and maintenance of steam turbines, repair and maintenance of steam turbine on the 1000KW generator, condenser water systems for all Chillers in HP II and CW Plant #9, rodding and cleaning condenser tubes on all chillers in HPII and CW #9, maintenance and repair on 250 lb. steam header in HPII, and assisting steam and chill water distribution crew with emergencies.

When Mr. Strappy began working at Heat Plant II, there was an Operations Group and a separate Maintenance Department. The Maintenance Department consisted of 8 Mechanics and worked all of the above duties. Over the years this Maintenance group has been reduced to a two man crew that is still responsible for the above duties. For the last year, Leroy had been performing the maintenance on his own with occasional assistance from other crews.

Mr. Strappy has been a strong and steady force at Heat Plant II over his entire career with the University, and became an obvious choice for the Systems Department Employee of the Year in 2004. Due to his efforts at Heat Plant II, there have been very few interruptions in customer service. Leroy's presence, dedication and knowledge will be greatly missed.



Dave O'Brien (left) presents Leroy Strappy with a commemorative UF medallion plaque

BARTRAM Continued From Page 1

building.”

Systems Controls and Alarms Superintendent Skip Rockwell said, “Myself and other Systems personnel stayed at Bartram till late Friday night, helping people who work in the building re-locate deep freeze equipment over to Carr Hall so they could have power. I was very impressed by the way that everyone from PPD just buckled down and went to work - we all knew we had a job to do, and all the employees there did an excellent job helping wherever they were needed.”

Facilities Dept. also responded to the situation and assisted Building Services with water removal and cleanup of damaged ceiling tiles. Maintenance Superintendent Buddy Vaughn said, “On Saturday morning, when I first heard about the leak, I came in and went to Bartram with Tracy Smith and our on-call man, Steve Fryman. The building was a real mess, full of mud and wet ceiling tiles all over the floor. So we got a crew together to help the Building Services personnel with removing all those damaged tiles and cleaning up in general.”

The cleanup effort continued throughout the day, with Building Services and Facilities removing standing water, wet, fallen tiles and other debris, and Systems testing and restoring power and HVAC service to Bartram Hall. Full power was restored to the building by lunchtime on Saturday by the Systems crew. By late Saturday afternoon nearly all of the water was out of the building, and Building Services employees came back on Sunday with fans and wet-dry vacs to suck up the last small puddles and drips. On Monday, a Facilities crew came in and replaced nearly 300 ceiling tiles, and by Tuesday morning, Bartram Hall was ready for business as usual.

PPD Assistant Vice President Dave O'Brien said, “This was an outstanding effort by many of our team members, and a genuine class act by all those involved. There is no better Physical Plant operation anywhere!”

PPD employees who helped contribute to the cleanup effort included: Building Services - Derrick Bacon, Dana Simmons, Gloria Grant, Albert Woulard, Sr., James Woody, Elnora Turner, Terry King, Shawanna Williams, Sandra Thomas, Bill Johnson, MaryAnn Daniel, Robert Frame, Denise Watson, and Paul Cowart; Facilities – Buddy Vaughan, Tracy Smith, Steve Fryman, Ray McClure, Paul Skiver, Keith Feagle, Jeremy Tetstone, and Charles Gordon; Systems – Dwayne Jones, Craig Williams, Lacy Rabon, Mike Thomas, Skip Rockwell, Mike Vaughan, Tim Noland, Richard Murray, Duke Reid, Harold Corbitt, Roderick Jones, and Dwayne Selph.

Thanks to all involved in this project!

Ron Hambrick Leaves PPD



PPD Risk Management Coordinator Ron Hambrick has left UF. Ron has accepted a position as the Director of Environmental Health and Safety at New College in Sarasota. We wish him the best!

Left: Ron shows off his commemorative certificate and mug at his going-away party at MainStreet.

All About PPD Employees...

New Employees

David Bridges, Building Svcs.
Jerrell Collins, Grounds
Tran Diep, Building Svcs.
Shameka Jenkins, Building Svcs.
Engeria Keith, Building Svcs.
Ronald Lange, Grounds
Jonell Mann, Grounds
Joshua Morse, Systems
Matthew Pollard, Facilities
Joseph Toole, Building Svcs.
Jessica Voorhees, Grounds

Promotions

Kathy Robinson, Building Svcs.



Congratulations!

December Employees of the Month:



Harley Conner
Building Services



Glenn Hayes
Building Services



Harley Ingle
HSC



Be Le
Building Services



Henry Thompson
Building Services

Not Pictured:

Trumaine Higgins, Grounds

Dwayne Selph, Systems

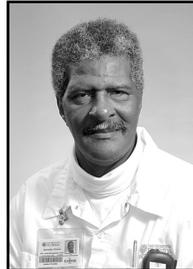
Employees Of The Quarter



John Black
Grounds



Ken Combs
Systems



KJ Green
Resource Mgmt.



Dennis Ingram
Facilities



Chris Keane
Arch./Eng.



Kathy Robinson
Building Services



Dawn Smith
Support Staff

Not Pictured:

Peder J. Winkel,
HSC