I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their efforts throughout the year. The success of our organization is built on the efforts of our employees and this past year, we have enjoyed many successes. Thank you for the dedication, loyalty, and commitment that each one of you has shown us.

We’ve come through a year that was filled with both challenges and victories. We’ve had several retirements this year. Those folks will be missed. We’ve had 12 F.S. Employees of the Month, also, Zone 5 Manager Guy Price was selected as KU’s September Employee of the Month. Congratulations to all of them. We’ve hired two new supervisors, Matt Elms leads the Instrumentation Shop and Josh La Tour will be leading the new 24/7 shop. We reorganized the department by bringing some of the Central shops into the zones and started our new initiative of Preventive Maintenance being our priority. Another new change is the New Maximo system. I’m sure that too will be a success because of the great people in this organization. How reassuring it’s been to know that we can count on all of you regardless of what faces us.

Please allow me to extend my personal and genuine appreciation to each and every one of you for your valuable contributions to this organization. Working with you this past year has been a pleasure and I’m proud to be part of this great team. I offer my best wishes and happiness to you and your families during this holiday season as we all look forward to a successful 2016. My door is always open. Stop by and say hello when you’re in the area.

Vince Avila, Director, Facilities Services

Upcoming Events:

- **EAC Meeting**
  - Feb 10, at 8 a.m. at the Kansas Union, English Room. Both COM and FS staff can attend.

Reminders:

- If you have not ordered shirts you are allowed 5 shirts per year from your last order date. Please see Amber Wood for shirt orders. Shirts can no longer be exchanged for any reason.
- Do you have your KU ID badge displayed prominently? Employees should be wearing a KU FS shirt or a KU ID badge when doing work in a building. If you need an ID badge cover, clip or lanyard, please see your supervisors. Supervisors can receive these from Amber Wood. If you need a replacement ID—present the non-working card to your supervisor who will contact Amber Wood for a letter.

News

- The new Health Quest discount is $240 from $480.
- Facilities Services Adopted a Family with the Salvation Army and made a very nice Christmas for them.
- Matt Elms is the Instrumentation Shop Supervisor
- Charles LaTour is the 24/7 Shop Supervisor
- December 24, 25, January 1 are holiday times.
You may be familiar with the State of Kansas’ STAR program that is available to employees. Their website is http://oitsapps.ks.gov/da/ops/star/ and is updated frequently to reflect new additions and changes. The program can provide discounts on things you may already have such as cell phone service or things you may need such as automotive repair, events such as weddings, dental care, special events, memberships, travel, appliances, and many more. This is a great resource to check for ways to save money. Review the industries for available discounts. Be sure to check for discounts available in certain cities or other criteria.

Facilities Services adopted a family thru the Salvation Army as in years past. The family was a mother and father and three children, a boy 10, a girl 10 and another boy 8. The family asked for pots & pans, baking pans, Tupperware, tools, coats, winter boots, Legos, Clothes, Art items, and Toy Cars. Each member of the family received a complete outfit, toys/necessities, and a gift card for $80 for food for a family dinner. This project was completed only thru the great generosity of the employees who took part in it. Some of you I was able to accept the money from, and thank, directly but there are many more who put money in a collection. Every bit counts in dollars and gifts of all sizes added up to a nice holiday for this family.

The gifts were dropped off on Thursday December 17 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds where the family would pick them up in the days after and before Christmas. Thank you all again for taking part and making a great holiday for this family.

-Amerber Wood

Another pro-
gram availa-
able to all
state employ-
ees is the
Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Their website is www.theap.com Their website has resources such as writing a will, help to find child and adult care, and other programs such as coping with depression and life changes such as divorce. This is a great tool to find some solutions to troubles that may be facing us. The employee ID for log in is SOKEAP. If you are visiting for a first time to their site you will need to create a username and password.

Another item that is available to all KU Staff is the Microsoft Office 365 for free. This can be done thru myCommunity. The website can be found here https://technology.ku.edu/office. You can also upgrade to Windows 10 for free here, http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-10-upgrade. Need antivirus software? Also free here, https://technology.ku.edu/software/sophos-antivirus There is additional software available, just go to http://technology.ku.edu/software to check out all the available software and reduced price (for staff) software items.

Tell a lie once and all your truths become questionable.
Zone 5, Justin Barton:
Just to let you know that Justin did a great job on trouble shooting the boiler feed controls at Higuchi Interx. Thanks for all his help.
Charles Shaw, Zone 1

Zone 2:
I wanted to let you know how impressed I was with your staff during the McCarthy Hall opening. As you know, we opened a little late and there was still plenty of work to be done on move-in day. Mike Brown, William Moran, and John Moloney stepped up and helped Housing get some very important last minute work done which allowed the residents to fully utilize the space. Their positive attitudes and friendly demeanor helped us to open in a positive fashion. Please pass along my sincerest appreciation to them and all others who helped out.
Doug Carter, Kansas University Student Housing

Zone 4:
All went very well at the pools. Thanks to you and your staff.
Clark Campbell, Kansas Swimming

Zone 6:
Our room required plumbing maintenance today to unclog our drains, and I just wanted to let the department know that both men who came to our room today did an excellent job. I did not catch their names (I believe Kenny was the name of the first man) (sic-the second man was Caleb Cook), but I want them to receive full credit for responding to my service request so quickly and so. After the first worker realized that the problem would require different tools, he immediately called for assistance, which arrived very quickly. The second worker, despite begin called at the end of his shift, was very patient and friendly once he arrived. Both men were very kind and conversational while they worked. The second man, after completing the job, also did an excellent job cleaning up. I am very relieved to say that our drains are again in working order.
Courtney Bierman, Student

Praise for Facilities Services

Tina Harris, Zone 2 Custodian and Linda Ellison receive training a new floor machine. They stopped just to take a picture!

Zone 6:
Great meeting Gerry! I really appreciate you taking so much time with us. It was incredibly productive for all of us. I really feel that our Spooner occupants need to meet occasionally to see if we have shared problems and just to know how our facility as a whole is doing. We need to keep thinking like one museum, even if we are split technically between two, since we share a lot of environmental issues because of our collections. It is such a nice group of people to work with that such meetings are always pleasant. When I was at the Carnegie M. of Natural History, I worked closely with our Facilities folks and they really kept us going and in good shape. I am pleased that we have you and your team looking out for us.
Sandra Olson

Zone 4, Gene Normandin:
Please let the person know what a fantastic job he did cleaning up the mess in the restroom at Dole.
Machelle Puckett, Zone 4 Custodial Supervisor, Facilities Services

Zone 6:
The first thing is they are the only zone that actually follows up with Work Management when we ask for room number updates and or asset information. (usually we get ignored). Also They are awesome at putting their detailed logs and materials on every work order that requires. (this is also rare with the zones) I personally know how hard they work to keep good records and just thought it would be a good idea to recognize them for it and let them know it is appreciated. You will probably want to reword these a bit but you get the gist ;).
Tanya Hackathorn, Campus Operations

Zone 3, Stacie Glover
There was a note on my desk this morning from my student worker explaining an event last night created a huge mess in our building (Nunemaker) - He said, “Stacie is fantastic” and that he wanted to be sure to “absolve Stacie and inform you of her valiant efforts.” Without the note I would not have known anything had gone on. We don’t say thank you enough to those we do not see – but without them we would be in a mess. Please let Stacie know we appreciate her always but especially last night. We will also be talking about the issue of clean-up by the event organizers after an event is hosted.
Beth Kelley, University of Kansas Honors Program

Tommy Wood and Joshua Wheeler,
Thanks for going to the extra effort of getting the Underground ready for the pre-final hordes. We served over 2000 studiers last night between nine and eleven; thanks for giving us the heat, air and access that made that possible. Students felt happy, cared for and fortified for finals thanks to you. We appreciate the extra effort taken to give those students a good send off into the straits of testing.
David Mucci, Director, KU Memorial Unions
Thanks David!
And thanks to all of you in FS for a job well done!
Barry Swanson

Zone 5 Third Shift at a Holiday Gathering
EAC Employee of the Month October:
Jeremy Mills

Jeremy Mills is a Carpenter Senior in Zone 5 who is always willing to paint, lay carpet and assist in other crafts as needed. Jeremy is very talented with a can-do attitude. Jeremy is seen by his fellow staff as a great all around guy who can be counted on when needed. Jeremy was nominated in two separate nominations, by Steve Alvarez and Aileen Dingus.

EAC Employee of the Month November:
Tanya Hackathorn

Tanya Hackathorn was nominated by Gerry McClaskey for the great work she had done with zone 6 but Lea Bryan, her current supervisor was quick to follow up that she is doing great in work management. Tanya is described as a woman who takes ownership of her work and has great communication skills. Because of her great demeanor she is respected by everyone she works with.

EAC Employee of the Month December:
Chris Shaw

Chris Shaw is a plumber in zone 5 and recently transferred there from the core plumbing shop. Chris is noted as being dedicated, professional and very focused. Chris responds to after hours calls and has been a great example on how to adapt to new surroundings. Chris Shaw is son to Charles/Chuck Shaw, the Zone 1 Maintenance Supervisor. Chris was nominated by Peggy Robinson.

Retirement:
Sam Gunther

Sam Gunther has been in the plumbing trade at KU since May of 1992. Sam was an assistant supervisor with the plumbing shop and then a plumber senior with Zone 4. Sam retired with his last day on November 2. Sam is looking forward to retirement and fishing.

A person who feels appreciated will always do more than what is expected.