OAS Supports Breast Cancer Awareness

In the United States, a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer every two minutes. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide, taking 458,000 lives each year. The causes of breast cancer remain unknown, which is why early detection is important. When breast cancer is detected early, and is diagnosed and treated properly, there is a good chance the cancer will be cured.

Breast Cancer is a public health concern year-round, however, in October it gets some extra attention. Breast Cancer Awareness Month aims to not only educate people about the disease’s prevalence but also to recognize those who have been/are affected by it. Several employees from Facilities Management wore pink during October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (see photos below).

While you can't prevent breast cancer, it is important to be proactive about your health, because there are steps you can take to detect cancer early. To learn more about the disease or to learn how you can help, visit nationalbreastcancer.org.

The ASBC Celebrates Halloween

To celebrate Halloween, the Administrative Services Business Center hosted a Halloween party. While they might not have the chance to trick or treat anymore, the ASBC gave employees the opportunity to dress up and have some spooky fun.

The ASBC was adorned with holiday decorations and attendees wore festive costumes. A costume contest was held and Hollie Chancey and Shawna Neckar, who dressed as peanut butter and jelly, were named the winners. Snacks and games were also provided during the party for everyone to enjoy.

Reminders

- **November 11** is Veteran’s Day
- **November 28** is Thanksgiving
- Nominate a deserving coworker for an Excellence Award!
- Submit your ideas to the Communication Pillar at OASCommPillar@usf.edu
OAS Participates in Homecoming Parade

This year was the first time departments in OAS have participated in the annual Homecoming Parade. There was an excellent turn out with floats representing every department. There was also a competition for the best decorated float.

To add a “wow” factor, Gutzkow and Gilliam wired a fog machine and club lighting to make steam come out of the bull’s nose and the eyes light up. The entire process took about four days to complete, using industrial pipe, pool noodles, cardboard, and rubber hoses.

The Grounds float was named the winner of the float-decorating competition, followed by Maintainance and Special Allocation in 2nd and Parking and Transportation Services in 3rd. This event was a great morale booster for everyone who was involved. We look forward to seeing bigger and better floats in next year’s parade!

Each group that participated received a bag of items they were required to incorporate into their floats. The items ranged from cotton balls to fairy wings to a single rubber glove. There was no theme, so teams had full reign to let their creativity flow.

Just after 6:30 p.m, the extravagantly decorated golf carts were moving down USF Holly Drive. Among them, Irrigation Technician, Peter Gutzkow and his wife Paula were riding in the Grounds float, which was complete with a 3D bull head made from scratch (pictured below).

Gutzkow and a team of helpers from the Grounds crew, including James Gilliam, Scott Chelikowsky, Gary Shadwick, Pong Yargnork and Scott Alvarez, designed and created the elaborate float. Gutzkow’s inspiration came from his hobby of cosplay. He used his costume making experience to come up with and execute the design.

The USF Operations “Stranger Things” themed float being judged by the student judges.

Emergency Management’s float showed off a real emergency- a man being sucked into a tornado!

One float highlighted part of the OAS Service Philosophy

Garbiel Montalvo poses in front of his float.

Wayne Wilcox and Devanshi Tank, dressed as a Greek god and goddess, pose in front of their float, which carried the four pillars of OAS.

Anniversaries

October 2019

Facilities Management

Anthony Williams 35
Gregory See 34
Lee Capehart 33
Pooran Partap 31
Valerie Chapman 30
Margie Wright 30
James Campbell 20
Kimberly Tomkinson 19
Matthew Knowles 18
Anthony Penny 18
Ralph Pettus Jr 10
Suchitramba Daniels 9
Edwin Tidwell 8
Saul Ponce 8
Dusan Alavanja 8
Jean Desir 8
Paula Darby 8
Tania Pascual 6
Selecha Anderson 6
Eric Ramos 5
Eliezer Rodriguez 5
Carmen Cruz 5
Wayne Sharp 4
Savor Taylor 3
Paul Mullins 3
Olga Slavick 2
Tanya Cain 2
Estanislao Felix 1
Peter Albritten 1
Natalja Konovalova 1
Frederick Berrian 1

Parking & Transportation Services

Christina Moss 3
James Groover 3
Nelson Rodriguez 1
Campus Safety Day
For the fourth year in a row The University of South Florida Police Department and USF Department of Emergency Management participated in National Campus Safety Awareness Month by hosting the annual Campus Safety Day.

Emergency Management’s tent included trivia on natural disasters and provided tips on how to stay safe if you are ever caught in one.

The event was held on October 24 in the Sessums Mall area. This event aimed to inform attendees of the dangers of natural disasters, prepare them for emergency situations, and demonstrate the safety resources on campus and around Tampa Bay. Many local organizations came out and offered safety tips and tools to attendees. Several gift cards were raffled off to attendees who visited 15 or more of the organizations at the event.

There were also trainings and demonstrations at the event, including fire extinguisher training, roll-over crash demonstrations, and a K-9 search demonstration. Emergency vehicles were on display along with local emergency personnel who were available to answer any questions attendees had.

PATS Information Pop-Up
Once every few months, PATS hosts an information pop-up to answer questions regarding parking and transportation, and offer information on anything the department has coming up.

“A lot of times, people just don’t know the services and resources we offer,” says Raymond Mensah, Director of Parking and Transportation. “We currently have openings for a robust program available to students.”

The student bus driver program offers students training to receive their Commercial Driver’s License. Once students pass their CDL exam, they are able to work as a part-time Bull Runner driver. Some students even transition to full-time drivers after graduation, and move up to supervisor roles.

Students, faculty, and staff were also asked to give a "Thumbs Up" or "Thumbs Down" to express their satisfaction or dissatisfaction with PATS, and were encouraged to give feedback based on their opinion. As a "Thank You" for feedback, the pop-up gave away bus-shaped stress balls and card holder lanyards that make it easier to present your I.D. to bus drivers when boarding the Bull Runner!

In last month’s newsletter, we released the anniversaries for October instead of September. We apologize for this mistake and would like to spotlight the anniversaries we missed on page 4.

Retirements
Margie Wright (30 years)
Custodial Worker
Building Services & Vending

Welcoming New Additions...
Terry Pilon
Plant Maintenance Mechanic
Utilities

Let us know any feedback/ideas you have for upcoming newsletters: aaronnichols@usf.edu
Do You Have Your Service Philosophy Card?

This is a question you hopefully have been hearing and asking a lot more in the past week. During the 3rd Quarter Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, cards were handed out which stated the OAS Service Philosophy on one side and the Guiding Principles on the other side.

We urge all employees to carry these cards with them at all times. It should serve as a reminder as well as a challenge. Challenge your coworkers, your supervisors, even challenge VP Williams when you see him. Hold each other accountable for carrying these cards, and if someone does not have theirs, see if they can recite the service philosophy and the guiding principles.

The Service Philosophy and the Guiding Principles outline the standards that OAS employees are encouraged to strive for. They not only explain “what we do” but also “how we do it”. The Service Philosophy speaks on the importance of the work of OAS employees. It sets apart the Office of Administrative Services and is what makes us one of the top workplaces in Tampa Bay.

We hope that these cards help remind you of the excellence-driven culture of OAS. Every employee has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those they interact with, by performing at a level that exceeds their expectations.

If you carry this card with you and are constantly trying to apply the Service Philosophy and the Guiding Principles to your daily tasks, you will be bettering yourself, OAS, and USF.

If you did not receive a card at the Town Hall, please contact aaronnichols@usf.edu and we will get you one.