Construction zone safety is a top priority

*by Rachel Stone*

Inside this issue:
The University of New Mexico (UNM) Main Campus has been impacted by many construction projects both by the City of Albuquerque and UNM’s large building projects. Construction can change the vehicle traffic flow and pedestrian routes that commuters have grown accustomed to. It is important to remember that construction fencing and signage is strategically placed to minimize hazards to site workers and the community who nears these zones, whether in a vehicle or on foot.

ISS Announcement

It is important to remember to follow traffic signs, cross roadways in designated crosswalks, and seek safe alternative routes if the usual route has been diverted. Parking & Transportation Services (PATS), the Physical Plant Department (PPD), and Planning, Design, & Construction (PDC) understand the necessity of travelling the campus in the most efficient way, but also are responsible for maintaining safe construction areas and re-directing paths appropriately and safely. It is up to the campus community to work together to keep the roadways and walkways safe during this time of great change at The University.

Safety Week

Additionally, please note that mopeds and scooters are no longer permitted to be driven on campus walkways, and cannot be parked at the various bike racks on campus. This policy change came about due to a number of accidents and “near-misses” at UNM. In order to assist students, faculty, and staff during this transition in policy, PATS is offering a moped/scooter permit at no-charge for the Fall 2017 semester. For more information on this change, please click here.

Kudos

All are invited to totem pole blessing and celebration

The Smith Family Totem Pole originated in 1907 on Turnour Island, British Columbia. It was recently restored by Kwakwaka’wakw artists and raised in the UNM Hibben Center. Join Chief Danial Smith and the Tl’o’wsitsis delegation for a blessing and celebration.

The event will be held in the Hibben Center Atrium on Saturday, September 16, from 1:00-3:00 pm. This event is free and open to all.

Sponsored by: The Alfonso Ortiz Center for Intercultural Studies, The Hibben Trust, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, UNM Department of Anthropology, and the Physical Plant Department.

For more information: call 505-277-1400, email Maxwell@unm.edu, or visit the Maxwell Museum website.
PPD All Stars

The Physical Plant Department’s (PPD) “All Star” staff recognition award was developed to recognize employees for being exceptional and to show appreciation for the excellent staff at PPD. Winners will receive a $20 LoboCa$h card to use at various locations on campus.

Here are the PPD All Stars from the month of August:

Congratulations to Raul Odell, facilities services tech for Area 1!! Raul was nominated by Dave Simpson, and he said:

Raul is a facilities service tech for Area 1, but in reality, he is a technician that has some knowledge of all the trades: electrical, HVAC, and plumbing. In fact, we can use him to work with any trade or project, and he is a good fit with any team. Raul is a technician that gives 100% effort, no matter if he is working with a team or on his own. We often find that we have to pull technicians from a job to address priority issues or emergencies that occur in our buildings. Raul never complains when we call on him to drop what he is doing and respond to a different area. This can be frustrating to a tech, especially right in the middle of a repair. Raul is always willing to do this. Raul is also very good at communicating with our customers, his supervisor, and co-workers, and this is a great quality. Raul is a great asset to The University of New Mexico, and he is a great example of a good, dedicated employee.

Congratulations to Milton Schwab, turf tech for Grounds & Landscaping!! Milton was nominated by Willie West and he said:

Milton was nominated for the Physical Plant Department (PPD) All Star Award because of his strong work ethic, dedication to the department, and his willingness to help out wherever he is needed. Since joining the Grounds and Landscaping staff in 2009, Milton has volunteered to work with other divisions in PPD such as Special Activities and Heavy Equipment. In addition, he regularly steps in to work special events such as graduation, providing a valuable service to The University.

Milton’s knowledge of landscape maintenance practices, as well as his ability to effectively and safely operate the variety of equipment, is needed to maintain the landscape at The University. Our community has high standards when it comes to the campus grounds, and Milton is the kind of employee to exceed expectations and is a valuable and important member of our team.
Rachel Stone joins ISS Administration team

The Institutional Support Services (ISS) administration has announced that Rachel Stone, Physical Plant Department (PPD) communication & outreach specialist, joined the ISS team on September 1, 2017. Stone has been an employee with PPD for over nine years and has been in higher education for over 17 years. She has also served as the co-chair of the ISS Communication & Marketing Committee for the past two years and has become familiar with the division and the areas where communication is effective, and where there are opportunities for improvement.

The email released yesterday said, “This position is an important addition to the ISS Administration team which will be used primarily to focus on our internal and external communications. What this means is we will have a dedicated staff member focused solely on engaging our staff, campus constituents, and New Mexico community members with information sharing and media relations.

We are very excited to have Rachel on our team, and it is our hope that you will welcome her and utilize her expertise to further the effectiveness of ISS communications amongst the various departments on campus as well as our NM community.”

UNM Safety Week kicks off on September 18th

UNM is committed to offering services, information, resources, and tools to offer a safe campus to all students, staff, faculty, and visitors. We also encourage individuals to contribute to campus safety and preparedness by becoming informed, staying alert, and using good judgment.

To learn more, click here.

Kudos

Hi Victor [Tovar],

Thanks for all the good work that you, Paul and your staff at Physics and Astronomy do for our department. This includes the daily custodial staff, the floor crew, and anyone who helps with special and urgent requests for our building.

Sincerely,

Gary G. Harrison
Facilities Services Manager
Department of Physics & Astronomy
Registration for Fall Family Tailgate is still open

Registration is required to attend the Parent Association Fall Family Tailgate. Registration will be available until Wednesday, September 6, 2017. After September 6, 2017, you may call 505-277-0790 to register for this event; however, registration is subject to availability. Check-in information for this event will be included in your registration confirmation.

For more information about this event, click here.

2017 Onsite Preventive Health Check ups

Want to learn more about your health and earn a $200 credit on your UNM medical plan premium? Employee Health Promotion is coordinating the Onsite Preventive Health Checkups until October 6th. Catapult Health is providing checkups and consultations for all active employees enrolled in a UNM medical plan. There is no out-of-pocket co-pays or co-insurance charge. Spouses/domestic partners who are enrolled in the UNM medical plan are also eligible to earn a $100 credit.

For more information and to sign up, visit the Preventive Health Checkups webpage.

The Physical Plant Department’s mission is to consistently deliver effective programs and efficient facility service based on sustainable and collaborative outcome aligned with The University of New Mexico’s core mission. The Physical Plant Department’s vision is that our community, state, and national peers will recognize The University of New Mexico’s Physical Plant Department as a leader in campus sustainability and facilities stewardship.