Welcome to July! Temps are reaching the 90’s, humidity is soaring, afternoon storms are popping up just about every day, so that means one thing — TIME FOR THE FACILITIES SUMMER PICNIC! That’s right, we held yet another fun and successful picnic in spite of the soaring temp’s! We purposely held this year’s picnic earlier in the summer (just as we did last year) with the thought of hopefully getting a little cooler weather and also beating the rush of students returning to campus in late August. And while the day was extremely warm I think everyone had a good time based on feedback I’ve received. I wanted to personally say thank you to our cooks, our set up crew, our take down crew, our recycling crew, our announcers, our employees who participated in the contests (while I was impressed with the quality of shirts being worn, I was floored by the quality of the desserts!) and our planners for the event. Nothing like this gets pulled together without the help of many volunteers whose focus was on delivering a perfect picnic for us all. I know there are too many to name so I will say a huge thank you to you all. Your hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed. I know there were a lot of pictures taken so I have included many of them as an attachment to this month’s edition.

I would also like to thank Carol Kissal for taking the time out of her busy day to join us in the heat. We truly appreciate seeing and hearing from you and want you to know you are always welcome to stop by any of our events or to simply stop by the Facilities work space to say hello!

I know the forecast for the remainder of the summer probably looks a lot like the current forecast so let me close by saying thank you to you all. I would encourage everyone to take some time off this summer to enjoy family and friends, recharge your batteries and simply relax doing something you enjoy. When you do, please be safe! And as always, thank you for what you do everyday!

Sincerely, Frank Strike

**Fast Facts:**

**Facilities 2019 Summer Picnic!!!**

If you were anywhere near West Campus in Fairfax it would have been hard not to smell the burgers, dogs, and briskets cooking in preparation for the Facilities 2019 Summer Picnic.

This year’s volunteer cooks out did themselves! Here we have pictured Kevin Brim, Chris Thorpe, Derek Borzi, Lou Robinson, Dwain Wise-Spain, Shawn Brent, and Kelly Foster. Great job as always!!!!

We had close to 200 employees and guests who braved the hot weather to attend this year’s picnic. One of our guests was our new SVP, Administration and Finance, Carol Kissal. Pictured here with Frank. Carol took time to address the group, thanked them for all the hard work they do day in and day out.

Thanks to everyone who attended this year’s picnic, those that participated in the contests, and especially those that helped set up, cook, take down, clean up, sell tickets, buy food and supplies for all their hard work. We have attached another page with more photo’s to this edition of Facilities Forum.

**The Strike Zone:**

**Employee of the Month:**

Facilities Employee of the Month for July is Ed Ziliox, a Plumber working in Zone 5 at our Fairfax campus. Ed was nominated by Kelly Foster (Zone 5 Manager) and Rick Davis (Zone 4 Supervisor). Both mentioned Ed’s commitment and dedication to his job and spoke of his willingness to help where ever needed. Rick wrote: “We were short a plumbing position in Zone 4 and Ed came over to volunteer his services. Once we hired a plumber he was instrumental in assisting with training.” Steve Vollmer also commented that “We are fortunate to have a worker like Ed on staff.” So if you see Ed around campus please make sure you say congratulations to him for being recognized as Facilities EOM for July!

**Current Openings**

- Sustainability Program Manager, Education and Outreach
- Plumber II, FM Fairfax Campus
- University Sustainability Director

**Upcoming Events:**

**Prescription Drug Drop-Box**

Mason Police offer a permanent drop box for unused, expired, or unwanted medications in the lobby of the Police and Safety Headquarters (located next to the Rappahannock River Parking Deck).

Drop off unwanted medications 24/7. Both prescription and over-the-counter drugs are accepted. Please, no sharps or needles of any kind.

For questions or more information, contact Lt. Michael Guston at 703-993-3414 or mguston@gmu.edu.

**Building Name Changes at Arlington and SciTech Campuses**

On Monday, July 1, the following university building name changes officially went into effect:

Arlington Campus: Founders Hall is now Van Metre Hall

SciTech Campus: Bull Run Hall is now Katherine G. Johnson Hall

We appreciate faculty and staff support in ensuring that all Mason department or unit websites, signage, and other materials reflect the new building names. For questions, contact Una Murphy, Arlington Campus Administration, at umurphy@gmu.edu or Colby Grant, SciTech Campus Operations, at cgrant2@gmu.edu.

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