U of M Buildings Earn Energy Star Rating

From Left: Lewis Gilbert (IonE), Fred Clayton (CEHD), Pam Wheelock (U Services) and Jeff Davis (Energy Management) at the Learning & Environmental Sciences Building.

Four more University of Minnesota buildings have achieved ENERGY STAR ratings by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), bringing the institutional total to seven. Burton Hall, Wulling Hall, the Learning and Environmental Sciences Building and Roy Wilkins Hall join the Donhowe Building (June 2011), Education Sciences (August 2011) and University Office Plaza (April 2013) on the list of ENERGY STAR rated buildings on the Twin Cities Campus.

ENERGY STAR plaque unveiling ceremonies will be held in each building as follows:

• Wulling Hall – Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m., 1st Floor Inner Lobby (86 Pleasant St. SE, Minneapolis)
• Burton Hall – Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m., 2nd Floor Atrium (178 Pillsbury Dr. SE, Minneapolis)
• Learning and Environmental Sciences – Thursday, Oct. 17 at 4:15 p.m., 2nd Floor Atrium (1954 Buford Ave., St. Paul)
• Roy Wilkins Hall – Thursday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m., 1st Floor Lobby (1212 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis)

For nearly 20 years, the EPA has administered the familiar ENERGY STAR program for household electronics and appliances. Similar to the ENERGY STAR score sheets displayed on washing machines and water heaters, the EPA

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2013 Community Fund Drive

FM Makes Top 10 for Employee Participation

Facilities Management staff generously supported this year’s Community Fund Drive. In total, more than 500 FM employees made pledges totaling more than $28,000 this year. The University received pledges of more than $1.3 million dollars from more than 35 percent of its employees (as of 11/18). FM units held several fun and interactive Community Fund Drive events this year, including the West Bank’s annual Hot Wheels race, Health Sciences District and Central Services Breakfasts, East Bank’s Cook-out and the Donhowe/Energy Management Bake-Off.

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Will Rogers enjoys pancakes at the Health Sciences Breakfast.
Mike’s Memos

October 1, 2013

Community Fund Drive
A Reason to Give

The 2013 Community Fund Drive kicked off October 1 with the theme, “A Reason to Give.” Most people at the U have a cause that’s near and dear to their heart that they donate time or money to. Something about the cause makes you want to help. That something is your reason to give.

No matter what your cause or reason to give, you can make a difference. Join the ranks of university staff and faculty that donate more than $1 million annually to causes that transform the lives of countless people. FM’s units are organizing events (see list below) to help drum up support the drive.

There will also be an FM-wide prize drawing for a $250 Target Gift Card at the end of the drive for anyone who makes a CFD donation. If you make your CFD donation at an FM event, your name will be entered into the drawing by event staff. If you make a donation online, ask your district/unit CFD volunteer to enter your name. The volunteers are as follows: Brian Flaherty (Health Sciences), Rick Schramm (Central Services/AVP office), Nick Kluge (Central Services), Terry MacNeil / Michele Adkins (East Bank), Eric Eischens (St. Paul), Sara Schoen (West Bank) and John Shepeck (Energy Management).

Additionally, the university-wide Community Fund Drive (CFD) organizers have a number of prizes they are giving away to help motivate people to donate. The earlier you choose to donate the better your chances of winning. For more information, check out the Community Fund Drive www.umn.edu/cfd/. Remember it’s not the amount that you’re donating but the number of folks who join the cause.

October 1, 2013

Trades Expectations Q&A & Pro-10 Training Update

This summer Facilities Management distributed a document outlining and codifying job requirements and expectations for trade workers. Most of these expectations were in place before, but the expectations were not always communicated in one way or location, so the new document was intended to clarify things and bring them all into one place.

The rollout of these expectations has gone well and we have received good clarifying questions from trade workers, business agents, and supervisors. For your reference attached is a list of the questions we have received and answers from our staff. Please review the questions and answers. Hopefully you will find the information helps you better understand different aspects of the trades expectations document. If you have additional questions please forward them to your supervisor or to Shane Stennes, interim Chief Administrative Officer for Facilities Management (stennes@umn.edu or 612-626-2588).

In the trades expectations document we indicated that all trade workers need to provide proof of completion of Pro-10 training by December 31, 2013. Pro-10 training is an outcome of the Labor Users and Contractors (LUC) committee that is a partnership between management and labor.

The purpose of Pro-10 training is “to support high-quality working conditions and clarify the expectations between union construction workers, contractors, and owner/clients: more harmonious, professional job-sites ensure a safe, productive work environment.” Pro-10 training has been taken by many Facilities Management trades already. Training is composed of two parts – Plus 6 training and Core 4 training. The Plus 6 training topics are varied and are typically taken at the union hall. The Core 4 training topics include:

- Professionalism
- Safety
- Communication
- Mutual Respect

Facilities Management will be offering Core 4 training on-campus beginning the second week of October in support of the Pro-10 training deadline of December 31, 2013. The Core 4 training will be offered on Wednesdays at the Food Operations Facilities training room, 155B. Employees are not paid for attending the training but Facilities Management will provide parking and a meal during the training session. Trade workers are required to complete the Plus 6 training prior to taking the Core 4 training. Register for Core 4 training online at http://z.umn.edu/core4 or through your supervisor.

October 17, 2013

Heating to Cooling Transition

With the colors peaking and cool weather upon us, FM has begun transitioning buildings from cooling to heating season - a process that takes several weeks. Unlike your home, the U’s conversion process isn’t as simple as flipping a switch to turn on the furnace and turn off the air conditioner. The process is complex, and depending on the building can require putting antifreeze in the pipes and draining cooling towers. We are staging our efforts and working with an eye towards the weather (once a building is converted, it won’t have cooling until next spring).

In late September and early October we provided refresher training to Mechanics and other FM personnel involved in shutting down and maintaining chilled water systems, and starting up heating systems. Now our folks are putting those skills to use. Despite our best efforts, some spaces may experience uncomfortable temperatures for a limited time. Our goal is to minimize this exposure. If a customer feels the temperature in...
their space is either too high or low, please do what you can do to help and encourage them to contact the FM Call Center at 4-2900.

Star Performer Nominations Now Open

Nominations are now open for the 2013 University Services Star Performer Awards. The process is open to the entire campus, so please be sure to share this information with your contacts and customers. Go to the Star Performers website where you’ll find the 2013 nomination form and details on past Star Performer Award winners. The deadline for nominations is Monday, November 4.

October 22, 2013

Employee Engagement Survey

As you may have heard, the University is conducting an Employee Engagement Survey, facilitated by The Hay Group. This is the beginning of a new employee engagement initiative to help the University fulfill its research and academic mission by energizing, empowering and enhancing the workplace for faculty and staff.

FM employees should have already received an e-mail from the Hay Group containing a unique link to the survey. I encourage all FM employees to participate. This is your opportunity to provide feedback to me and other University leaders about the workplace. Your response will make a difference and help us improve going forward. Here are some quick facts about the survey process:

• A link to the survey was sent by email (from The Hay Group) to each employee. It’s a unique link that can be used only once. The survey can be taken on a computer, Android or iPhone, or iPad.
• Employees need to log in to their email to access the link and complete the survey. If you have forgotten your email password you can have it reset by contacting the University Office of Information Technology at 1-HELP (1-4357).
• All employees will be provided time at work to complete the survey. Please talk with your supervisor to arrange time to take the survey and access to a computer if you don’t typically use a computer at work.
• The survey is open from October 14 - November 1.
• The survey is being administered by an outside vendor to ensure confidentiality. All responses will be sent directly to Hay Group for processing, and no one in the University or your department will have access to your individual answers.
• Results will be provided to employees following the survey.
• The survey is short and will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

This initiative supports President Kaler’s strategic objectives to drive Operational Excellence by implementing the Office of Human Resources (OHR) strategic plan to attract and retain top talent with exceptional employee engagement. More information about the employee engagement survey (also referred to as E2) is available at: http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/e2/.

Great Performance

West Bank Graduate Orientation Crew: Sara Schoen, LeRoy Engele, Shannon Mitchell, Dave Peterson, Tefera Kereta and Dan Borash

The Graduate School recently shared their appreciation for the West Bank FM staff that played a role in making their first ever new student orientation a success. Held in Willey Hall on September 7, the event featured 400 graduate students, and had to be pulled together in just over six weeks. The short time frame for planning and putting on the event meant many last minute requests and changes.

“I just wanted to relay that we had a fantastic experience working with facilities and classroom management staff,” commented Char Voight, Assistant to the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School. “Every single staff person we came in contact with was patient, professional, and willing to go above and beyond for us. The FM staff that we interacted with both prior to the event and on the actual day were approachable and extremely helpful.”

Keep up the good work!

November 1, 2013

Open Enrollment

Benefits Open Enrollment begins today, November 1, and continues through December 2. This is a time each year when University employees can make changes to certain benefits options.

The University will be making changes to the benefits plan for 2014. A summary of changes are attached and are also available at: http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/prod/groups/ohr/@pub/@ohr/@benefits/documents/asset/ohr_asset_457969.pdf.

To better understand these changes and how they affect your benefits choices, you may want to attend the annual Employee Health & Benefits Fair, taking place at the specified dates and campuses below.

St. Paul - November 12
North Star Ballroom, Student Center - 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Minneapolis - November 13
Great Hall, Coffman Memorial Union - 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The fairs provide a great opportunity to talk to the health and pharmacy benefit managers, and retirement investment representatives. You can also participate in wellness activities, such as flu shots funded by UPlan Wellness and offered at no cost to you, at all of the fair locations.
Community Fund Drive
(cont. from page 1)

Beverly Johnson from the St. Paul Campus won the FM-wide drawing for a $250 Target Gift Card. The drawing was open to any FM employee who made a contribution. The winner said, “I've been here 11 years and have given every year. It seems like every year I win a little something. I like to give, because I was down on my luck at one point in my life.”

University staff and faculty help thousands of people annually with their donations. Each contribution contributes to transforming the lives of those affiliated with the 400+ organizations.

Dave Moore makes pancakes.
Terry MacNeil and Gary Mosiman prepare food East Bank’s Breakfast.
Kirk Richardson and Shannon Mitchell at the St. Paul Breakfast.
Participants in the 2013 West Bank Community Fund Drive Hot Weheels Race.

Kevin Taylor, at left, Target gift card winner Beverly Johnson, Dick Hanson and Chad Steen, Steen’s crew had 100% participation.
also administers a scoring system for buildings. This tool serves as a method for comparing a building’s energy efficiency to the that of similar facilities.

To earn the ENERGY STAR rating, each building’s energy consumption data (including building hours, size, number of occupants, types of lighting systems, etc.) is compared to hundreds of similar buildings. Buildings that are more energy efficient than 75 percent of all similar buildings qualify for the ENERGY STAR label. Burton Hall earned a rating of 98, meaning its energy efficiency rates in the top two percent of all similar buildings. Wulling Hall earned 96 points, Learning and Environmental Sciences Building received 96 points and Roy Wilkins Hall scored an 82.

“The Energy Star Program provides the University with a universally accepted standard for validating the results of campus energy efficiency efforts,” said Jeff Davis, Assistant Director of Energy Management. “Our hope is that when the folks who work in a building and the folks who maintain the building walk by an Energy Star plaque every morning, it will remind them to continue to do the little things that will add up to huge energy savings. It all adds up.”

Energy Management uses the EPA’s ENERGY STAR rating system and the State of Minnesota’s "B3" (Buildings, Benchmarks and Beyond) database to benchmark and compare University buildings’ energy performance against similar buildings. The Building Energy Report Card on the Facilities Management website was established to provide occupants with a visual indication of how campus buildings are performing from an energy efficiency perspective. The report card provides a meaningful ranking of each building’s energy performance using a common unit of measure (KBTU / GSF) and comparing it to benchmarks created by using the state of Minnesota B3 benchmarking tool.

Collectively, these tools facilitate recognition of the U’s achievements in energy efficiency and help direct future efforts to improve the efficiency of campus buildings.
FM Anniversaries

The dedication of FM's long-standing employees is clear when you look at the many years of service that they have provided the University of Minnesota. It is with great appreciation that we recognize the following employees for reaching their respective milestones of service.

Thank you all and keep up the good work!

October

45 Years
Joan Falkenberg

25 Years
Christopher Nault

15 Years
Scott Sundgaard
Allen Pearson

10 Years
Mark Morrill

5 Years
James Shiffer
Timothy Row
Charles Bartelma

November

40 Years
Clell Staehnke

20 Years
Haile Redda
Thomas Chock
Gregor Berger

15 Years
Eric Ulrich
Jeffrey Sekhon
Brikti Haile

10 Years
Joan Russell

5 Years
Eric Reither

Employee Focus

Not many people can say they completed their bucket list before turning 35. St. Paul Campus plumber foreman Don Filiowich is one of the rare ones who can.

“Starting when I was nine years old, my dad took the family to Florida every winter,” remembered Filiowich. “I met people from all over the country, saw things I wanted to do and took the opportunity to do them.”

So, what did he cross off his bucket list? Well, there's hundreds of sky dives, surfing the North Shore of Hawaii, the Kentucky Derby, World Series, Daytona 500, Indy 500, Stanley Cup Finals, hiking in the rain forest, climbing the Swiss Alps, spear fishing, scuba diving and speed boating.

If there's one obvious omission on Filiowich's list, it has to be the Super Bowl. While he admits it's something he'd like to see, he's never been in the right place at the right time. He was out of town when the Super Bowl XXVI was played in Minneapolis in 1992. Hopefully he'll get a second chance and the game will return to the new Vikings stadium due to open in 2016.

A graduate of St. Paul Central High School and St. Paul Technical College, Filiowich worked out of state for a few years in his mid-20's before returning home at 27. He had been checking things off his bucket list along the way, and was considering a move to Bora Bora when his father, John, a plumber at the U since 1959, recommended he look for work there.

What began as a temporary job in 1985, led to more than half a century of Filiowich plumbers at the U. Filiowich worked out of state for a few years in his mid-20's before returning home at 27. He had been checking things off his bucket list along the way, and was considering a move to Bora Bora when his father, John, a plumber at the U since 1959, recommended he look for work there.

“I think that I took this job a little bit more serious because it was my dad’s job,” said Filiowich. “He taught me the University’s mission statement and that our work supports teaching, research and outreach by keeping the campus running without disruptions. That's how I learned, and it gets carried on.”

By the time he was 35, Filiowich was married with two kids, a station wagon and a completed bucket list. Now, with nearly 30 years of service at the U, he's ready to help his 21-year-old son Charlie and 23-year-old daughter Emily start checking things off their lists. Emily is currently in the midst of a world tour, during which she has visited 22 countries in two months.

“I take them wherever I can,” said Filiowich. “I just hope they’re cautious and use there heads if they choose do the things I did, like skydiving.”

Maybe Charlie and Emily can help Don cross the Super Bowl off his list if it returns to Minnesota in the future.