Celebrating Presidential Service Awards

The Presidential Service Awards were celebrated for employees of Saint Louis University who have had more than 25 years of service. The 106 Presidential Service Award recipients enjoyed a breakfast together in the Saint Louis Room on Wednesday, December 5. Four speakers were invited to present at the breakfast, which included Roger Goldman, Maurice Green, Irma Ruebling, and 2007 SLU graduate, Jesse Sullivan.

Christmas Decorating Contest

The MOVE Committee sponsored a Christmas Decorating Contest this year, which encouraged employees to decorate their workspace with festive holiday cheer. Ten departments throughout campus participated in the contest to win a Saint Louis Bread Company bagel breakfast for their team. Though all the decorations were great to judge and everyone had many wonderful stories, the judges decided that the winner of the 2012 Christmas Decorating Contest is Suzanne Morris and her team in the School of Nursing! Suzanne and her team went above and beyond holiday decorating expectations, garnishing practically their whole floor with holiday cheer (even the bathroom)! The work and enthusiasm that went into their ornamenting was shown throughout every detail of their decorations. Congratulations Suzanne and Team!
The Halloween Spell Was Cast – Boo Fest Was A Blast
Submitted by Barb Schaefer, Administrative Assistant with the Heartland Center

Something was brewing on October 28th. Dracula looked spectacula as 325 guests came out ready to howl at the annual Boo Fest at Pumpkin Park. Hosted by St. Louis College of Pharmacy, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) families and friends enjoyed games galore in their spooktacular costumes.

The afternoon delight was filled with fright from weenie roasts to the tiny ghosts as a batty good time was had by all. The annual event was presented by UnitedHealthcare.

JDRF is the largest global charitable supporter of T1D (type 1 diabetes) research. Until a cure for diabetes is found, JDRFs is committed to developing new and better treatments to improve the lives of people with diabetes and to keep them as healthy as possible while funding the research to prevent the disease.

Help and hope are a phone call away. (314) 729-1846 or jdrf.org

Dressed as a magician, Zach Schaeffer of Shiloh, IL, really would like his diabetes to disappear. Zach is 12 and was diagnosed with T1D at the age of four. Photo by Carla Falasco
George Anselm King was born on November 4, 2012. He was 6 lb., 15 oz. and 20.5 in. long. He is the son of Martha King, manager in Academic Affairs, and Jonathan King, Adjunct Instructor in Theological Studies.

Carrie Abboud, Billing Supervisor for the Otolaryngology Department, and her husband, Eric, gave birth to an adorable baby boy, Chance Matthew Abboud, on September 20, 2012. Chance weighed in at 9 lbs. 2 oz. and was 21 1/2 in. long. Congratulations Carrie and Eric!

Maury Rich, Custodian for Custodial Services, celebrates his engagement to fiancé, Crystal Barbour, on July 3, 2012. Congratulations!

Sherry Wright-Gully is the mother of two beautiful daughters (Ronda & Diamond) and nana to two precious grand’s (Chance & Jasmine). She became a Saint Louis University (SLU) employee in August of 2002 where she currently serves as the Financial Coordinator for the Physician Assistant Education Department handling the finances among other things while exercising Jesuit beliefs and mission.

The Jesuit experience caused her to flourish at work as well as in her personal life. After joining SLU she became a passionate dramatist, actor, producer, & director of her own stage plays through gifts discovered later in life. Her work has been seen in venues such as Harris Stowe State University, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, and the Saint Louis History Museum. While enjoying the rewards of her craft she had a nudging desire to return to school. With tuition remission benefits provided to SLU employees of this Jesuit institution she was afforded the opportunity to pursue her education and jumped at the chance.

Sherry began her academic journey with the School of Professional Studies (SPS) five years ago majoring in Organizational Studies with a minor in Criminal Justice. As a SPS student, Sherry was selected to be featured in the 2010 Fall issue of Universitas Magazine. Additionally, she wrote and submitted several blogs for the department in her spare time. Likewise, she can be spotted in several SPS commercial video promotions. Despite the ups and downs of life, Sherry has finally reached the culmination of her time as an undergrad student, but received endless support from her sister (Jackie) and brother (Alan).

The proud Billiken completed her education this Fall and graduated on December 14, 2012. She will be forever grateful to the School of Professional Studies for its outstanding professors, and advisors who helped make her dream a reality. Sherry believes that the program was designed with busy adults like her in mind. She attended online and on-ground courses according to preference and gained knowledge that she is able to use in her career and in her personal life. She confirms that Saint Louis University is truly an educational institution "Where Knowledge Touches Lives".

Congratulations to Sarah Hassen, Communications Assistant in HR, for your graduation from the John Cook School of Business!!! We are so proud of you!

-Anna, Lisa and Jim
Lindsey Riley, Megan Mitchell, Anna Beasley, and Megan Esser from HR ran in the St. Charles Santa Dash 5k on Saturday, December 8.

Frank Tucci, Financial Services Counselor for Student Financial Services, and his daughter, Gabby, completed the Chill on the Hill 5K race on Saturday, December 1, 2012.

United Way Campaign Announces Prize Recipients

Submitted by Carolee Patek, Human Resources Specialist, Sr. for Human Resource Information Systems

Thanks to the Saint Louis University community for making the United Way Campaign a success. The final pledge amount is $93,943.

The following donors have won prizes as part of the campaign’s participation prize drawing:

- Donald Jacobs, M.D., of the Division of Vascular Surgery, won a 16-gigabyte Apple iPad
- Joe Besser, of Information Technology Services, won a Kindle Fire
- Jin Huang, Ph.D., of the School of Social Work, won a Keurig Single Cup Home Brewing System
- Stewart Albert, M.D., of the Department of Internal Medicine-Endocrinology, won a Bose Soundlink Wireless Mobile Speaker
- Christine Jacobs, M.D., of the Department of Family and Community Medicine, won a Nikon Coolpix L810 digital camera.

The Santa Hat Run 5K, held on Tuesday, December 18, with employees from SLU and the Wells Fargo group. SLU employees earned 250 Vitality Points for finishing the 5K.
We want to hear from you!

Please email your news, pictures, and suggestions to

slulifenewsletter@slu.edu

http://www.slu.edu/hr.xml

The Gift of Giving
Submitted by Jim Greathouse, Training Specialist, Sr. for Training & Development

As many of you know, I am blessed with the opportunity to be Blue Santa here at Saint Louis University. In this role, I often interact with older children who are past that magical age of believing but still want to have a picture with Santa. Instead of asking them what they would like Santa to bring them for Christmas, I often ask them to tell me of some act of kindness they performed in the past year. Have they helped a neighbor, friend, or family member in some way? Answers I hear from so many children is such a blessing to me. I recently ask several 4th graders for examples. Each child was very involved in various projects and is proof of how great kids are. Some were helping older neighbors rake leaves, collect mail, and take out the trash each week. Several children were collecting for St. Jude or other charities. One little girl was collecting shoes for the “Shoe Man” to help dig water wells in Africa. She was so excited when I told her I had met the Shoe Man and was sure he would be very proud of her efforts. I even suggested to her that she make a Golden Boot Trophy and encourage other classes in her school to participate. Some children were busy helping mom and dad with younger siblings and chores around the house. I had a little trouble at one point holding back tears when one girl said all she wanted for Christmas was for her aunt to be happy because her cousin had just died. What an unselfish request from such a young heart.

My wish for each of you and myself is that we receive the gift of giving that is so apparent in the hearts of these children. So my question to you this Christmas season isn’t what gift do you want to receive but what gift are you giving to others? Merry Christmas to All and to All, May God Bless!

The Second Year Orthodontic Residents, in the Center for Advanced Dental Education, tried to score extra points with their instructor Dr. Eustaquio Araujo by dressing up as his favorite soccer team for Halloween.

The Core ECG Lab volunteered at the Make A Difference Day on October 27, 2012. The team volunteered at Cardinal Ritter Senior Services.

Pictured above: Bandula Guruge, Mary Streif, Stan Bussen, Jennifer Bussen, Jane Eckstein, Teri Bertram, Mark Bertram, Rachal Goldkamp-Fechter, and Jim Bowling

Guess who is on Facebook? Your Human Resource Department! “Like” us on Facebook to see what’s going on. Go to http://www.facebook.com/SLUHRHOME and “Like” HR today!