Director's Corner

Welcome back to Students and faculty. We are excited about the start of the Fall Semester.

It seems like we are always very busy and the summer has been very productive. This semester promises to be very busy for us as well.

We are here to help with any issues that may arise. Remember that the call-in number will soon change from ex. 2280 to ex. 7880. You will still be speaking with Norma Dragon.

Wishing everyone a Great Semester!

Rick Lobato, Physical Plant Executive Director

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Reminder: New Physical Plant Extensions at ASC-B

New Physical Plant extensions at The ASC “B” building:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Extension</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Orders</td>
<td>ext. 7880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Lobato</td>
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<td>Maria Gomez</td>
<td>ext. 7827</td>
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<td>Teresa Fierro</td>
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<td>Rick Torres</td>
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<td>Pascual Martinez</td>
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<td>Roberto Samaniego</td>
<td>ext. 7885</td>
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<td>Norma Pagan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Curiel</td>
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<td>Javier Cisneros</td>
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<td>Angel Ramirez</td>
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<td>GCA Services</td>
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Physical Plant Personnel

Manuel Garcia Morales, Maintenance Worker I, has worked with the Physical Plant for five years. His tenure at EPCC began in 2010, and in 2013 he converted to full-time status.

Mr. Morales takes care of the Valle Verde Campus Americana Village grounds.

He brought with him years of grounds experience from his work at the El Paso Housing Authority and previous work for six years at a tomato farm in Arizona.

Mr. Morales says that he likes his current assignment to enhance the beauty of the area around the Americana Village.

We are lucky to have him with us to take advantage of all his experience.

Julio Castaneda, Maintenance Worker II, is currently working in the mechanical area of the Valle Verde Campus. He started his EPCC career in 2011 and changed to full-time in 2013.

Mr. Castaneda has worked assisting the Campus Technician at the Valle Verde Campus in the many areas of campus maintenance.

He was well prepared for the work at the Physical Plant by his previous experience at EPCC as an employee of GCA Services for 2 years and in construction for 4 years before that.

Julio tells us that he can use all of his earlier experience to help him in his current work.
EPCC Friend, Artist Bill Racoky Dead at Age 91

World renowned El Paso artist Bill Racoky has passed away at the age of 91. He was a featured artist of the EPCC Salute to the Arts and had exhibited his work at the College. He had studied Art in Italy and Kansas City before settling in the El Paso area.

Mr. Racocy donated 4 murals and 25 other paintings to EPCC (including the three paintings at right), which will be on permanent display in the Administrative Service Center “B” building lobby.

Some of his work is also for sale in support of the Foundation for EPCC, to provide scholarships.

We extend condolences to Mrs. Gloria Canterbury-Rakocy and assure her that her husband will be remembered and his work will be admired and preserved for years to come.

The Physical Plant movers help Mr. Racocy move the mural Quest for Truth and Beauty to an EPCC exhibit.

Salinas Corn Dancer, 2009

The Mystery of the Barns of Corona, 2001

Guitarista en Mercado, 2002
Physical Plant Work Throughout the District

The **Physical Plant movers** have been working with the **Academic Computing Services** by distributing new computers to all campuses during the summer break.

Over 770 computers have been delivered and installed at the five campuses and at the EPCC classrooms at **Fort Bliss**.

The movers have also been picking up the computers that are being replaced and delivering them to the workshop in the **Administrative Service Center**.

The **Grounds Crew** has begun a new phase of the landscaping of the **Transmountain Campus**. The work includes planting **Orange Birds of Paradise**, **Yellow Birds of Paradise**, **Golden Sky Sunflowers**, **Yellow Tip Yucca**, and **Golden Barrel Cactus**. **Raul Lucero** and **Jorge Almanza** are seen in the picture above working on the east side of the campus.
Physical Plant Work Throughout the District

In preparation for the coming winter, 96 steel tubes (pictured above right) were replaced in **Valle Verde Campus Boiler #3** (above left) as a result of a leak. Fire runs inside the tubes and heats the water in the boiler, which is then used to heat the buildings.

The Grounds Crew has finished the landscaping of the newly paved slope at the **EPISD Early College High School** campus within the **Transmountain Campus**. It included the addition of trees, cacti, and other plants. Besides enhancing the look of the campus, the effects of erosion have been greatly reduced.
Physical Plant Work Throughout the District

The patio between the Rio Grande Campus Parking Garage and the Health Sciences Building also got renovated by the Grounds Crew.

The improvements include palms and colorful Purple and Red Lantanas.

The patio is accessible from the first floor on the south side of the building and from the second level of the Parking Garage.

The picture above is of one of the contractors welding water pipes near the ceiling of the office area being constructed on the west side of the Administrative Service Center “A” building.
Recycling Program takes Part in Faculty Development

The Recycling Program is busy with events throughout the year, but it does more presentations in the smallest amount of time during EPCC’s Faculty Development.

Mayra Cordero-Villalobos, Environmental Specialist, and Dr. Monica Delgado, Valle Verde Campus Chemistry instructor, are giving a presentation that teaches that It’s Never Too Late! to improve your lifestyle and surroundings.

The presentations are being given ten times at six campuses and locations in hopes of reaching as many people as possible. The Recycling Program was also at the EXPO held at the Administrative Service Center to provide information to new and returning faculty.

Three People Win by Refusing, Reusing, and Recycling

The Recycling Program held a drawing for a chance to win one of two stainless steel water bottles or a $50 gift certificate donated by LYLO Overall Wellness Center. It was open to everyone who sent in textbooks, ink and toner cartridges, or office supplies to be reused or recycled.

The winners are Letty Montoya (above left) who pledged to refuse Styrofoam, Rebeca Gonzalez (above center) who refuses to use products with microbeads, and Bea Quiroz (above right) from the Transmountain Campus Dean’s Office.
Good News and Bad News for Fort Bliss Computer Lab

Wednesday, 8-19-15: The Physical Plant movers assisted the Academic Computing Services by delivering computers to the EPCC computer lab at Fort Bliss.

Thursday, 8-20-15: The new computers were found damaged by the water and ceiling tiles that fell on them as a result of a water leak in the ceiling.

Friday, 8-21-15: The computers were removed from the lab and taken so that the extent of the damage can be assessed.
Physical Plant Gasoline Usage During Month of July 2015

The Physical Plant purchased **1,846 gallons of gasoline** during the month of **July 2015**, 8% less than the previous month and 7% less than during the same month last year. July was the first month in which Physical Plant included 15 new vehicles into its fleet.

GCA Employee Reaches Five Year Mark

**Carol Trejo**, GCA Services Administrative Assistant, has completed five years of service at EPCC. She began work at the EPCC account after receiving a **Professional Administrative Assistant – Office Assistant Certificate of Completion** from EPCC. **Carol’s** is the voice you hear when you call **extension 2594** to initiate a Janitorial work order. We congratulate **Carol** on her milestone and hope she continues with us for more years.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Physical Plant Staff Birthdays</th>
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<td>Sep 06</td>
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<td>Sep 13</td>
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**Carol Trejo**
Administrative Assistant
Cell Phone Use in the Workplace

Cell phones are a part of everyday life and are used everywhere. In the workplace cell phone apps help keep track of schedules, check emails, and contact other employees. However, cell phones can result in a loss of productivity when social media apps and games are installed and used. Checking status updates, text messages, and emails creates distractions in the work environment allowing accidents to occur. At home or at work, these accidents typically involve improper use of equipment, vehicle collisions, or walking mishaps. The best way to prevent an accident due to cell phone distraction is to control cell phone use.

Some ways to control cell phone use and keep productivity up:

- Keep text messages short.
- Avoid driving or walking while calling or texting.
- Stay logged out of social media and game apps.
- For any non-emergency items use your cell phone during breaks.
- If all else fails turn the data off on your phone if you can’t shut it off.

At EPCC
We “Take Safety home”

Office of Risk Management & Safety

Nancy Tharp, Risk Manager
Ivan Flores, Safety Specialist
EPCC Utilities from 2013-14 to 2014-15

**Electricity - kWh**

- 2013-14
- 2014-15

**Water - Gallons**

- 2013-14
- 2014-15

**Gas - Ccf**

- 2013-14
- 2014-15