

Facilities Management News

February 2020

Feb 2—Groundhog Day—*Short or Long Winter?*

Feb 10-14—National Courtesy Week

Feb 13—FM Raffle & Bake Sale

Feb 14—Valentine's Day—*On a Friday!*

Feb 17—Presidents Day

The JMU community loves Facilities Management



Durinda ❤️ Beautiful! ❤️ Shoutout to facilities management. Every walkway perfectly clear. Great job as usual. Thanks for all you do.

... (The post above was January 8 after the snowfall.)



Dawn S. ❤️ Love Team FM. Always making our campus beautiful!



Maria Williams ❤️ Thank you to FM! You all do a fabulous job and it doesn't go unnoticed.

So... does Team FM feel like someone's Valentine now?

"HARD WORK reveals people's character: Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all." Sam Ewing

Professionals ranging from those who study on-the-job performance and efficiency to professionals in physical and emotional health professions, agree that a healthy person is healthy physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Healthy people pursue varieties of experiences. The idea that those who turn up for hard work also need to turn up for lots of restorative down time is widely-accepted. So when anyone works hard... keep it balanced.

JMU event planners and trend setters from a range of departments, demonstrate their support or restoration recreation by providing an unending calendar of ways Team FM can relax, slow down, and let go of stress and enjoy music and performance arts offered by the Forbes Theater. Many other JMU department events are found on the JMU [website events calendar](#) and on FM breakroom bulletin boards there are community events.

Another great way Team FM can unwind is by joining a Balanced Dukes Affinity Group. Join a group that does whatever you enjoy doing the most for relaxing. Choose from fishing or kayaking to gaming or book club groups. So unwind with friends from Team FM or your family in all the many ways available to Team FM, and dial up your healthy you!

Dive into news about what the Plumbing Shop is getting into... blurb-blurb, gurgle, splish splash... on the next page.



We've been putting Facebook compliments from the JMU family in our newsletter. February is the month when we all tell special people nice things. So...here goes from me to you: Team FM, you should know that all of your hard work is appreciated by more than just your leaders. Your hard work improves comfort and safety for all people on campus, year in, year out.

It's always a great feeling to know that what you do is appreciated. We hope you enjoy reading these Facebook compliments in the newsletter. Be sure you "Like" FM on Facebook by following the icon links at the top right column or wherever you see this icon in our newsletters:



Rodney Lam

Remember who cares for you: Virginia's [Common Health](#)—your state employee's wellness program. Go online to the Virginia website to [learn about fitness discounts](#)

[Virginia.gov](#)

and fitness programs designed to help you make health a habit. Discounts are offered for health and fitness centers ranging from Cross-Fit3x in Fishersville, to Curves for Women and Golds Gym in Harrisonburg, and more.

If you want to share healthy lifestyle changes with your loved ones, family fitness opportunities with [Virginia State Parks](#) and US National Forests nearby, and Fitness for Kids programs may be of interest. Plus on the [.gov website](#), find "30 Classic Games for Outdoor Fun" like hopscotch and tag that rival the fun of anything "handheld" that you can enjoy with your children. One more important feature of this wellness information offered to state employees is meal shopping, budgeting, menu planning and learning portion control with USDA support and links to CDC and the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Then, don't miss a chance to win a \$100 Target gift card, and register for the [Whole Health Challenge](#) to make your health a habit! Team FM, if you want to be healthier in 2020, you have a lot of help!

Team FM is going to want, and appreciate, help from JMU's College of Business, Accounting, Masters students and their tax-expert professors who will give free tax preparation, review, and E-file this year through the [VITA Program](#). No appointment needed. Just bring all of your 2019 tax records and documents. First come, first served. Plan a few hours. Your long or short form return will be prepared free, on the spot and E-filed before you leave Memorial Hall.



Team FM Plumbers left to right: Merlin Deputy, Jeff Price, Jay Moyers, Jeremy Andrew, Bob Weaver, Donnie Green.



Anyone think Plumbing is boring? Not! Check out everything that the Plumbing Shop does.

Rather than Team FM doing the learning, how about **Team FM helping Page County students learn?**

Students visit FM February 20th to learn about jobs in Landscape, House-keeping, Geospatial and the Trades jobs. Let's all give them a warm welcome. Who knows, they may be working on your team someday!

If you haven't already, download the 2020 -21 Non Exempt Time and Attendance Record here: <https://www.jmu.edu/>

Jeff Price who leads FM's Master certified plumbers, says that his team knows how to keep the "main thing" the main thing. He means water mains and sewer mains of course. Team FM's Plumbing Shop has reached the pinnacle of their trade. They can troubleshoot complex plumbing systems and coordinate their work with City plumbers, builders, and engineers and other FM shops. They achieved their master's status by completing work with accurate estimates for materials, costs and labor time with efficient execution after interpreting blueprints or getting verbal instructions from non-trades customers. They put their knowledge of trade practices and codes into play. FM plumbers know the best tools and fittings for any variety of jobs. Jeff Price says his plumbers use customer service and communication skills as much as they use wrenches and plumber's putty whether working independently or with a team.

The how-tos of assessing, strategic planning and carrying out a plan, means plumbers might have to start a plumbing job by seeming to delay actually starting the plumbing job. Critical steps have to be followed *in sequence*. JMU's Master plumbers arrive and first have to figure out how and where to shut off the water. They need to identify which buildings are affected to give critical notice to prepare people who will be impacted. After shutoff, underground utilities may need to be located. FM Grounds staff, sometimes with heavy equipment, might be called in for trenching or hand digging. Carpenters could be called in to open ceilings and walls. Electric Shop may need to shut down electrical power.

Plumbers tackled a recent water main break that affected three dorms. That break turned a stairwell into a waterfall and the building's basement into JMU's newest pool. The Utilities team arrived and created a plywood diversion to redirect the gushing water. Electric Shop waded in to turn off power in a utility room where water had nearly reached contact with electric panels. With plumbers on that job nonstop from noon until about 2:00 a.m. on a weekend - FM's own version of "Grubhub" was a concerned FM Executive Director who *brought hot food* when he came by to check repair progress. Even when a main-break job is "done," it's not done. Every fire extinguisher system and every fixture is checked in every affected building, sometimes with the help of House-keeping, to make sure that re-pressuring didn't cause new leaks. After that check, *then* the job is done!

For plumbers, work is one infrastructure adventure after another. They laugh about once when Bob Weaver was replacing a men's urinal cartridge and the water line broke off with the cartridge and gave Bob an on-the-job shower. Plumbers know if they hear anything "snaking" down a line from a floor above while working with an open overhead drain to give it plenty of clearance. Plop! Plumbers were first to say, "*You never know what's coming down the line.*" Team plumbing jokes about another time when an apartment building had residents suffering a sewer backup that was determined to be a City sewer main. With repair urgent, FM plumbers stayed to help the City team, if asked. They saw a resident frantically rushing out of the apartment building wildly waving his hands while the City crew worked with the backup still worsening. The "Friendly City" plumbers in response, *stopped their work unclogging the main to take time to wave back enthusiastically.*

Collectively, Team FM Plumbing says that whether working a job alone or as part of a team with FM shops or other agencies, they're proud to keep things flowing for everyone to enjoy drainage, HVAC, drinking, sewage, and kitchen, restroom, and lab uses of water.

Click to go here for info:

Raffle Tickets for Sale, and a Bake Sale too!



Listen... Learn... Lead!

Congratulations! You're a Supervisor, Now What? TD1396

Feb 11, 2020, 1-4:00 pm

Overcome the jitters of being a new supervisor. Learn to lead people with ten important skills. Understand your role, know your responsibilities, learn leader skills, practice those skills in the workshop and more. Enjoy this opportunity to network with other new supervisors! First session of two sessions. Use this link for [more TD Workshops](#).

Stay on track for February safety training, take Hand and Power Tool safety at online at [JMU's In Class Now](#).

Virginia Senate Joint Resolution 120, 2004 National Courtesy Week

*You'll impress more than your Valentine. The second week yearly let's all on Mon: ask nicely, say "please", Tues: express thankfulness and say "thank you," Wed: give compliments, Thurs: smile and greet others, Fri: be thoughtful of others. FM, may not even need to practice courtesy—**We Got This!***