

Something

AWESOME

is happening!



**EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 7
AUGUST 2019**

PSTA's GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We operate with honest and transparent **communication**.

We invite robust debate and **listen** to each other's ideas.

We take personal responsibility to design **customer-focused** solutions and own the results.

We **innovate** and drive **reliability, quality, and efficiency**.

We actively engage in **professional development** and take initiative.



A rainbow over PSTA!
Photo Credit: AJ Ortiz, SST

BEST
The **of**
ST. PETE/CLEARWATER

VOTE FOR US
**BEST WAYS
TO GET AROUND**

VOTE DAILY THRU 9/6
BestOfStPeteClearwater.com

Congratulations! PSTA has been nominated for a 2020 Best of St. Pete/Clearwater in **BEST WAY TO GET AROUND!**

Every year, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater turns to locals and visitors to choose their favorites from around the destination.

Fans can vote once a day through September 6.

The winners will be announced in early 2020 in the *Gulf to Bay* destination magazine, which is distributed nationally and internationally. They will also be heavily featured online and through social media as a resource to visitors planning their trip on the best things to do, see, experience in St. Pete/Clearwater!



Submitted by
Whitney Fox,
Director of
Marketing &
Communications



**YOUR
FEEDBACK
MATTERS!**

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEYS

THANK YOU for participating in the recent PSTA Employee Engagement Survey! Your feedback will help us to continue to DRIVE CHANGE in the organization. Overall, we had 51% of our employees to participate and completed a total of 307 surveys. We can expect to receive our results from CPS HR by mid-September and will share them with all of you.

If you have yet to receive your \$5 Walmart gift card, please come to HR to sign for it and pick it up. If you work a shift where you are unable to make it to the HR window during business hours (8 am to 4:30 pm), please contact Tamika White (twhite@psta.net, 727-540-1850) to make other arrangements.

Here are your winners for the FREE DAY OFF. Congratulations!!!

- Bruce Cheevers
- Mia Kabigting
- Ron Scott
- Wendy Spearman

SHOUT OUT: Special thanks to the Transportation Supervisors for helping out in the Drivers Lounge; Kessia, Jim and Angelo down in Maintenance; Melissa in HR, and everyone else who helped make the survey a success! You are AWESOME!



**Thank
You!**

August

BUS OPERATOR COMMENDATIONS

William Dunbar

Barbara Irizarry

Roger Kershaw

David Latimer

Wayne Luecke

Keith Morton

Robinson Paul

Marie Sayce

Ian Garry Taylor

Katherine Yates-Champion

Irish Henderson

Alonzo Jennings

George Lentini

Ruth Roberson





SAFETY AWARDS

JULY 2019



OPERATOR NAME	DATE EARNED	NUMBER OF YEARS AWARDED	TYPE OF AWARD
Oaksin O'Hara	7/18/2019	33	Pin
Edson Melville	7/13/2019	25	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Ruth Roberson	7/2/2019	16	Pin
Melvin Kennedy	7/31/2019	13	Pin
Don Winrow	7/29/2019	12	Pin
Willie Walker	7/4/2019	12	Pin
Hanna Bourque	7/13/2019	11	Pin
Michael Thomas	7/27/2019	10	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Allen Smart	7/28/2019	6	Pin
Thomas Pifer	7/14/2019	5	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Albert Sosa	7/14/2019	5	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Ralph Dyer	7/14/2019	5	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Stephen Johnson	7/28/2019	4	Pin
Sameer Swaidan	7/27/2019	4	Pin
James Chartier	7/18/2019	4	Pin
Juan Carranza	7/27/2019	3	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Jacques Carlos Sorey	7/28/2019	3	Pin, Certificate, Safe Driver Patch
Rosalyn Frias	7/14/2019	2	Pin
Laketa Anne Young	7/24/2019	2	Pin
Louis Wade Jr.	7/24/2019	2	Pin
Matthew S Spearman	7/24/2019	2	Pin
Carlton Roundtree	7/27/2019	1	Pin, Certificate
Christopher Okon	7/30/2019	1	Pin, Certificate
Manpreet Singh	7/9/2019	1	Pin, Certificate
Robert Arnold	7/9/2019	1	Pin, Certificate
Irish Henderson	7/9/2019	1	Pin, Certificate

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Way to go, Bob
Lasher, on
earning your
Accreditation in
Public
Relations!!!

The Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) credential certifies your drive, professionalism, and principles, setting you apart from your peers and positioning you as a leader and mentor in the competitive public relations field. Building on the foundation of your educational degree, the APR keeps you current on today's best practices and applications in the ever-evolving communications world.

Congratulations!



Join us

**SEPTEMBER 22ND IS
GLOBAL CAR-FREE DAY!**

We will be having a Car-Free St. Pete event at Green Bench Brewing (1133 Baum Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33705) from 12pm – 4pm to celebrate.

Everyone is encouraged to take more car-free trips during Car-Free Weekend (Sept 20 – 22).





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BUS OPERATOR GRADUATES!



**Anthony Matias
Rizaldo Panganiban
Chad Condra
Michael Patton
Luis Barreto
Zondra Barrett
Angela Roman**

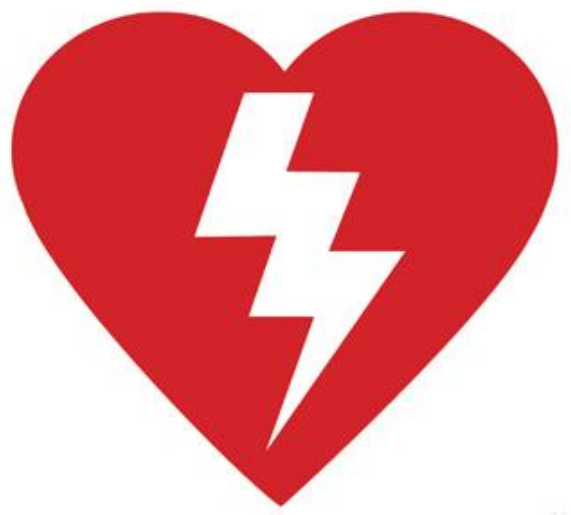
**Katherin Protor
Jeffrey Perry
Brian Kronimus
Michael Worley
Keassia Hall
Deborah Ouard**

You did it!

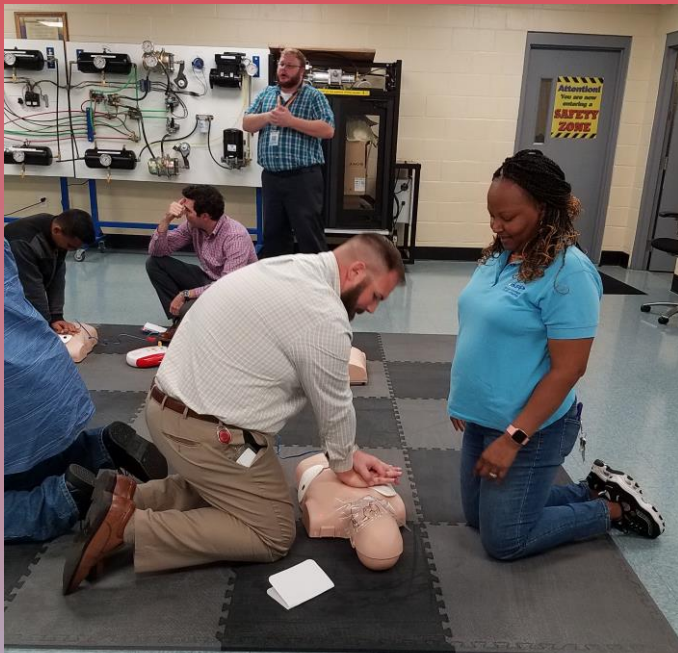


**American
Red Cross**

CPR/AED TRAINING



Instructors, Eddie Kester (SST) and Rocky Macaluso (Maintenance), recently delivered an awesome CPR/AED training!



Class participants: Edith Randle, Adriana Rodriguez, Kavindra Umakantha, James Pleasant, BJ Gavin, and Michael Hetrick



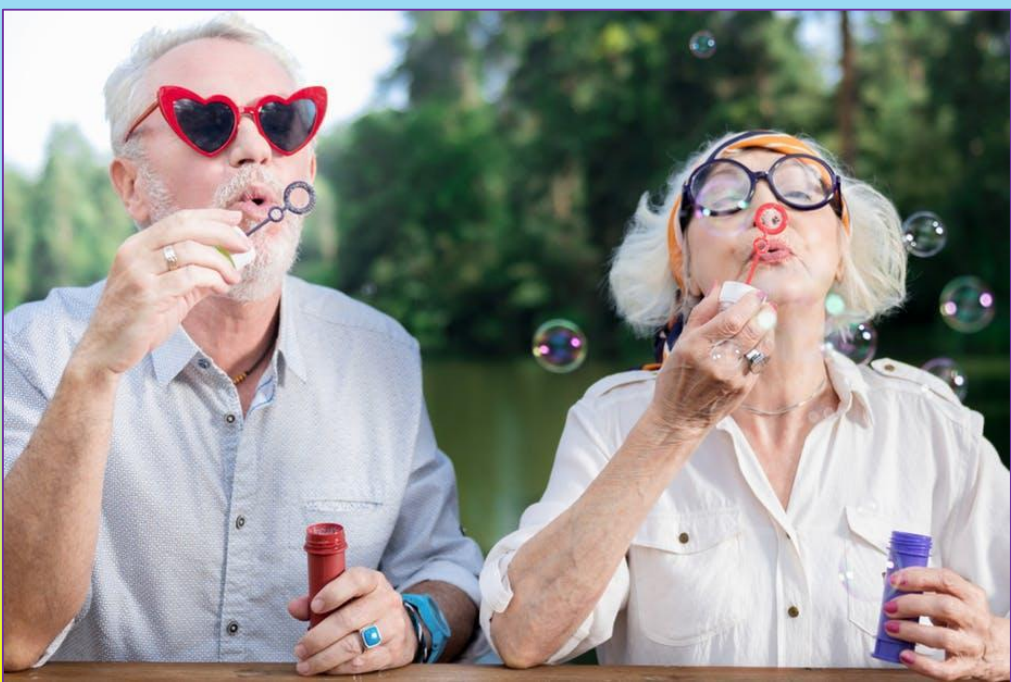
Submitted by Liz O'Hara, Benefits Manager

SEPTEMBER IS HEALTHY AGING MONTH

Take the time this month to celebrate life and turn over a new leaf. This month is dedicated to helping individuals gain a new positive outlook about growing older. Here are 10 Tips for Reinventing Yourself During this month from Healthy Aging Magazine:

- Do not act your age or at least what you think your current age should act like. What was your best year so far? 28? 40? Now? Picture yourself at that age and be it. Some people may say this is denial, but we say it's positive thinking and goes a long way toward feeling better about yourself. (Tip: Don't keep looking in the mirror, just FEEL IT!)
- Be positive in your conversations and your actions every day. When you catch yourself complaining, check yourself right there and change the conversation to something positive. (Tip: Stop watching the police reports on the local news).
- Have negative friends who complain all the time and constantly talk about how awful everything is? Drop them. As cruel as that may sound, distance yourself from people who do not have a positive outlook on life. They will only depress you and stop you from moving forward. Surround yourself with energetic, happy, positive people of all ages and you will be happier too. (Tip: Smile often. It's contagious and wards off naysayers.)
- Walk like a vibrant, healthy person. Come on. You can probably do it. Analyze your gait. Do you walk slowly because you have just become lazy or, perhaps, have a fear of falling? (Tip: Make a conscious effort to take big strides, walk with your heel first, and wear comfortable shoes.)

- How's your smile? Research shows people who smile more often are happier. Your teeth are just as important to your good health as the rest of your body. Not only is it the first thing people notice, but good oral health is a gateway to your overall well-being. (Tip: Go to the dentist regularly and look into teeth whitening. Nothing says old more than yellowing teeth!)
- Lonely? Stop brooding and complaining about having no friends or family. Do something about it now. Right this minute. Pick up the phone, landline, or cell and make a call to do one or more of the following: Volunteer your time, Take a class, Invite someone to meet for lunch, brunch, dinner, or coffee. (Tip: Volunteer at the local public school to stay in touch with younger people and to keep current on trends, take a computer class or a tutorial session at your cell phone store to keep up with technology, choose a new person every week for your dining out.)
- Start walking not only for your health but to see the neighbors. Have a dog? You'll be amazed how the dog can be a conversation starter. (Tip: If you don't have time for a dog, go to your local animal shelter and volunteer. You will be thrilled by the puppy love!)
- Make this month the time to set up your annual physical and other health screenings. Go to the appointments and then, hopefully, you can stop worrying about ailments for a while.
- Find your inner artist. Who says taking music lessons is for young school children? You may have an artist lurking inside you just waiting to be tapped. Have you always wanted to play the piano, violin, or tuba? Have you ever wondered if you could paint a portrait or scenic in oil? What about working in wood? (Tip: Sign up now for fall art or music classes and discover your inner artist!)



TWINNING with coworkers!



Submitted by Nicole Dufva,
Public Engagement Planner

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
ALL THE AUGUST
BABIES...**

**HAVE FUN AND MAKE
TONS OF MEMORIES!**

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE MONTH OF AUGUST

- The birthstones for August are the peridot and the sardonyx.
- The zodiac signs for August are Leo (July 23 – August 22) and Virgo (August 23 – September 22)
- August in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to February in the Southern Hemisphere.
- August's flower is the gladiolus. The flower was discovered in Africa in the 17-18th centuries and was initially used as food (don't try this at home!).
- The name "August" was given by Roman emperor August, in 8BC. Until then, the Romans called August "Sextilis" meaning the sixth month of their calendar. August claimed this month his own because most of his victories occurred during August. Many other versions of the name designate this month as Harvest Month.
- Famous birthdays in August include Barack Obama, Herman Melville, Hulk Hogan, Mila Kunis, Jennifer Lawrence, Ben Affleck, Madonna, Robert DeNiro, Peter O'Toole and Cameron Diaz.

Call for Newsletter Submissions...



Please send us your stories!!!

- Cool ideas for the newsletter? Please contact Tamika White, 540-1850 or twhite@psta.net.
- Newsletter Committee members include: Juan Luvian, Nicole Dufva, and Shelbie Harris.

