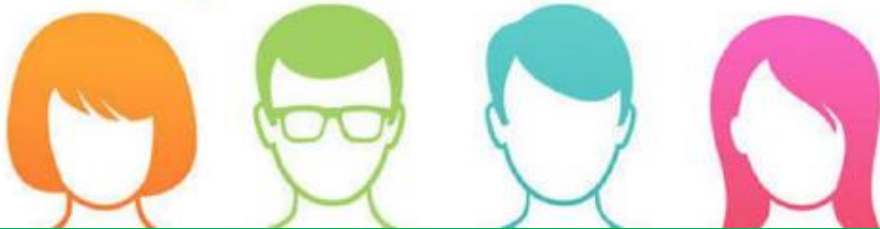




Something

AWESOME

is happening!



**EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 11
DECEMBER 2019**



Happy Holidays

PSTA's GUIDING PRINCIPLES

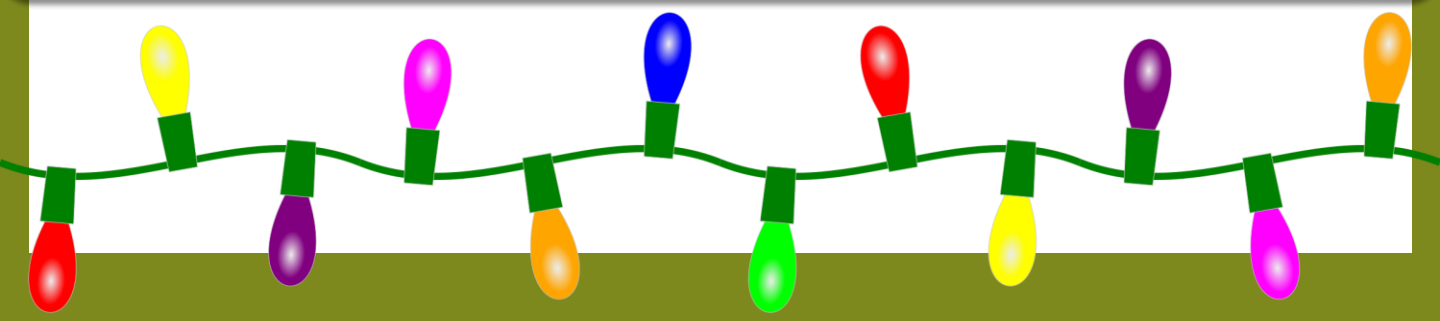
We operate with honest and transparent **communication**.

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.



CONGRATULATIONS



**WELL DONE,
JAMES
BRADFORD!**

Our Chief Operating Officer, Mr. James A. Bradford Jr., has been accepted to the highly competitive Eno Center for Transportation's 2020 Transit Senior Executive (TSE) program!

For over 15 years, the TSE program has nurtured the industry's leading talent.

As a participant, James will join a talented and diverse cohort of transportation leaders to develop, practice, and apply new leadership skills.

In addition, James was awarded the Robert F. Prince Scholarship from the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) to attend the program.

Way to GO!

**HAPPY
RETIREMENT!**

Submitted by James Bradford, Chief Operating Officer



FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES, JANE BROWN!

**We thank you for your many years of
PSTA service, dedication and hard work.**



Welcome TO THE TEAM!

Submitted by Whitney Fox, Director of Communications & Marketing



Ariel Kroll
Communications &
Marketing Assistant

It is with great excitement that we announce the addition of a new team member to the Communications & Marketing Department!

Ariel will be assisting our department with administrative tasks, PSTA events, marketing campaigns and keeping us organized.

She obtained her B.S. in Marketing from the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

Most recently, Ariel was the administrative assistant at LIG Marine Managers. She just so happens to be a huge fan of flamingos!

We are excited about the new organizational ideas Ariel has already proposed for our department and thrilled to have her as part of the team.

Please give her a warm welcome when you see her around campus!





*Submitted by Jeff
Thompson, Director of
Transportation*

NEW BUS OPERATORS as of 12/22/19

Kevin Williams

Karim Farid

DeShaun Johnson

David Hood

Tommy Wright

Robert Martinez

Melissa O'Hara

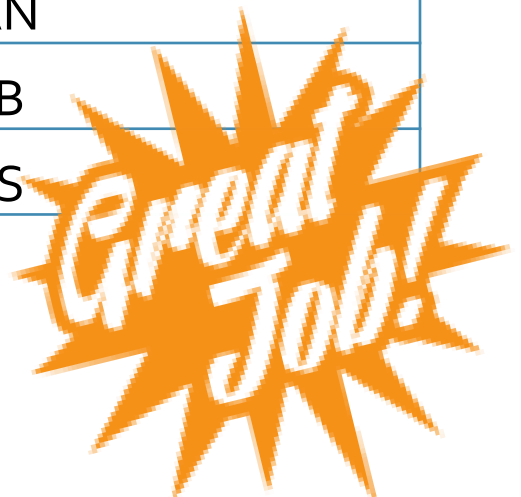
John Sink





COMMENDATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

BUS OPERATORS
HAROLD ALBERTSON
ANNETTE BRAITHWAITE
SALIM CHENNA
MICHAEL DESSINGUE
CHARLES GUNN
THADDEUS JAH
JEFFREY LAROTONDA
CATHY LAVINE
DERRICK PENNYWELL
DENNIS ROBERTS
IRA ROBERTS
DAVID RONDEAU
YOUSSEF TAWADROS
STEPHAN URBAN
WALLACE WEBB
JOHN WILLIAMS





OCTOBER 2019

OPERATOR NAME	DATE EARNED	# OF YEARS	TYPE OF AWARD
MICHAEL B RALSTON	10/14/2019	31	Pin
JAMES M GRAHAM	10/26/2019	28	Pin
NATALIE L WRIGHT	10/4/2019	19	Pin
PATRICIA L DAVIDSON	10/3/2019	19	Pin
GENE G ZICCARDY	10/28/2019	16	Pin
RANDY J PINTO	10/9/2019	15	Pin, Safe Driver Patch, Certificate
JOHN D PIMENTEL	10/12/2019	10	Pin, Safe Driver Patch, Certificate
RONALD LEE HAYS	10/18/2019	10	Pin, Safe Driver Patch, Certificate
MICHAEL J WORLEY	10/12/2019	10	Pin, Safe Driver Patch, Certificate
KATRINA M NEELEY	10/24/2019	8	Pin
NORMAN M PENIX	10/24/2019	8	Pin
KENNETH M KINDRED	10/24/2019	7	Pin
ANDREW ANDRZEJCZUK	10/27/2019	4	Pin
RICKEY HENDERSON	10/9/2019	3	Pin, Safe Driver Patch, Certificate
LATASHA GIARDINA	10/29/2019	2	Pin
JACQUELINE GAMBLE	10/24/2019	2	Pin
WILLIAM BUTLER	10/15/2019	1	Pin, Certificate

AMAZING!

VISION BOARD



New Year, New Goals! Come craft your vision for 2020 with your coworkers at the PSTA VISION BOARD PARTY!

January 9th · Auditorium · 1-3 pm

- A vision board is a tool used to help clarify, concentrate and maintain focus on a specific life goal.
- It is a collage representing things you would like to attract to your life and goals you would like to achieve in the upcoming year. (includes pictures, words, and inspiring quotes out of magazines, from websites, and your own personal photos)
- Please start looking through your magazines, photo albums, etc. and prepare a folder of inspiring items you would like to include on your 2020 vision board. Find a happy picture of yourself to place on your vision board as well.
- Bring the folder with you to the Vision Board Party on January 9th and we will assemble everything there.
- A few magazines, scissors, glue, and poster boards will be provided.

Space is limited. First come – first served. Please RSVP here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30eo84babab2aa7fe3-vision>



WALKING CHALLENGE!

WILL YOU TAKE THE LEAP AND GET MOVING?

January 19 to February 29, 2020

Let Benefits know if you will be participating by January 17th, 2020

Pedometers can be supplied if fitbits cannot be used.

If using a Fitbit you MUST join the

PSTA Moves Me Group

Rules: Step information needs to get to Benefits every Monday. If using a Fitbit, just make sure you sync at least every Sunday Night. This is an individual challenge.

Random prizes for weekly winners, with a grand prize for the employee with the most steps during the 6 weeks.

To sign up to participate please email: benefits@psta.net or call the benefits line at: 540-1987.

You asked and we listened! Starting in January a new Individual Walking Challenge!

See Posters around campus, or below for more details.

Start the new year off on the right foot. 😊

WILL YOU TAKE THE LEAP?!?!

Submitted by Liz O'Hara, Benefits Manager



DRIVING TO SUCCESS PSTA'S DEGREE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Tuition assistance is an employee benefit through which PSTA pays up to \$5,250 (advanced or reimbursed) annually for college coursework to be applied toward earning a degree.

The program is intended for employees looking to advance their education as it relates to their PSTA career track, offering the chance to increase industry knowledge and develop advanced skills.

**INTERESTED? CONTACT TAMIKA WHITE
AT 540-1850 OR TWHITE@PSTA.NET**



**TIS THE
SEASON
FOR
GIVING!**



PSTA HOSTED A 2nd MOBILE FOOD PANTRY ON DEC. 3RD

SPECIAL THANKS TO FEEDING TAMPA BAY & ALL THE PSTA VOLUNTEERS!



THANK YOU
for another
successful
Employee
Holiday Toy
Drive!

You are kind.
You are
generous.
You are
AWESOME!

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

Julie Lupis, after visiting RCS with Leadership Pinellas, took on collecting for the Food Bank. Approximately 350 pounds of food was donated by the PSTA Admin building employees. The RCS Food Bank distributes food to nearly 100 additional food pantries, food banks, and subsites throughout Pinellas County.

Matter of fact, 70,000 neighbors are served annually with nearly 50% being senior citizens and children.

In addition, RCS provides emergency shelter to homeless families, affordable housing, and has a safe house for domestic violence victims. They provide help and hope for people in need.

Submitted by Debbie Leous, Chief Financial Officer, and Julie Lupis, Director of Accounting



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Add an item to the box each day. On December 26 or 27, donate the box to the
RCS FOOD BANK | 700 DRUID RD, CLEARWATER

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| DEC 1 - box of cereal | DEC 13 - canned beans |
| DEC 2 - peanut butter | DEC 14 - box of crackers |
| DEC 3 - stuffing mix | DEC 15 - box of rice |
| DEC 4 - boxed potatoes | DEC 16 - container of oatmeal |
| DEC 5 - macaroni & cheese | DEC 17 - box of pasta |
| DEC 6 - canned fruit | DEC 18 - spaghetti sauce |
| DEC 7 - canned tomatoes | DEC 19 - chicken noodle soup |
| DEC 8 - canned tuna | DEC 20 - tomato soup |
| DEC 9 - dessert mix | DEC 21 - can of corn |
| DEC 10 - jar of applesauce | DEC 22 - can of mixed vegetables |
| DEC 11 - canned sweet potatoes | DEC 23 - can of carrots |
| DEC 12 - cranberry sauce | DEC 24 - can of green beans |

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



CAR-FREE ST. PETE

Submitted by Courtney Grigsby, Digital Marketing Coordinator

On Saturday, December 7, PSTA held a very successful first Car-Free St. Pete Scavenger Hunt! During this ultra-competitive competition, 12 teams of 2-4 people were given clues to solve and had the opportunity to earn extra points with a series of fun bonus tasks that were on theme with all things Car-Free.

Teams had to travel Car-Free during the hunt on the Looper, CAT and Coast bike share at least once while racing to complete all the tasks for a chance to win an awesome grand prize – free transportation for a year! All 12 teams had a great time and posted incredible photos on Instagram using the hashtag #CarFreeStPete.





Happy
Birthday,
December
babies!

December Birthday

• Fun Facts •

- You share your birth month with a ton of festive religious holidays, such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. It's like the whole month is lit up in your honor!
- The birthstone of December is the turquoise, which represents prosperity, success, and good fortune.
- December's flower is the narcissus, which symbolizes rebirth and respect.
- The zodiac signs associated with December are Sagittarius (Nov. 22- Dec.21), which is characterized as extroverted and optimistic, and Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19), which can be described as professional and organized.
- Monthly observances during December include Universal Human Rights Month and Read a New Book Month. Time to snuggle up with your Kindle and learn about the world around you!
- Celebrity birthdays in December include : Woody Allen (12/1), Lucy Liu (12/2), Walt Disney (12/5), Larry Bird (12/7,) Frank Sinatra (12/12), Bob Barker (12/12), Taylor Swift (12/13), Jamie Foxx (12/13), Vanessa Hudgens (12/25), Ludwig van Beethoven (12/16), Samuel L. Jackson (12/21), Sir Isaac Newton (12/25) and comic book icon, Stan Lee (12/28).

Although it may be cold outside, may you stay warm and happy on your birthday and throughout the holiday season!



Submitted by Liz O'Hara, Benefits Manager

As the new year approaches a lot of us are thinking of “resolutions” for the New Year. Maybe we’re saying to ourselves this year is the year, the year I do it!

New Year’s resolutions are a great idea. It’s great to go into a new year with a fresh outlook.

However, most resolutions are the same, I want to lose x amount of weight. I want to save x amount of money. I want to go to the gym x times a week. And we all know what happens with those resolutions by the time February rolls around.

But what if we looked at it differently...

- Instead of saying we want to lose x amount of weight, why don’t we say, “I want to change my outlook on health.” This will look different for everyone.
- Instead of saying I will go to the gym x times a week, why don’t we just try and incorporate activity into our daily routine. This could be as simple as taking the stairs once a day instead of the elevator.
- Instead of saying I will save x amount of money this year, why don’t we say I will eat out one less time a week and save that money.
- Instead of saying I will quit smoking cold turkey, why don’t we say I will cut back on the packs I smoke weekly.

You’ll be amazed at how quickly small goals, can lead you to bigger ones.

Whatever we decide to do for our resolution this year, remember if you really want to make it work, find an accountability buddy. This is someone you tell your resolutions too and they help make sure you stick to them.

GOOD LUCK IN THE COMING YEAR!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS TEAM!

Submitted by Ariel Kroll, Communications & Marketing Assistant

Getting into the holiday spirit doesn't always mean trimming a tree or watching Hallmark movies. For the Marketing and Planning departments a healthy dose of competition, knocking down pins, and eating the delicacy called pizza sticks is what rings in holiday cheer.

The first two games, everyone competed for themselves against the others in their lane. It was then that those who had a knack for bowling and those that were playing to avoid all pins were separated out. In the third game, teams of four were created for the ultimate showdown. Team Reindeer and Team Beat Whitney's Team started neck and neck for the first few frames, but Team Reindeer quickly fell behind after a few consecutive gutter balls. Despite the friendly competition, spirits were high during the event which will hopefully become a holiday tradition for years to come.

The supreme champion of the day, Alissa, winning the highest score of 155 Points.



All participants showing off their own "bowling balls". Right to Left: Liselle Murray, Mia Kabigting, Courtney Grigsby, Heather Sobush, Alissa Kostyk, Whitney Fox, Ariel Kroll, Bonnie Epstein, Stephanie Rank, Nicole Dufva

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of Game 2



1st 2nd and 3rd highest scorers of the final game



ANNUAL PSTA POTLUCK HOLIDAY LUNCH



Submitted by Maryanne Sobocinski, Planning Assistant

On Dec. 12th, PSTA Administration held its Annual Holiday Luncheon.

Great food, fun and frolic ensured everyone had a jolly good time!



Jess Baker
**Winner of the
Ugly Sweater
Contest!!!**

+ Celebrate THE HoliDaYs
with your PSTA family!!!

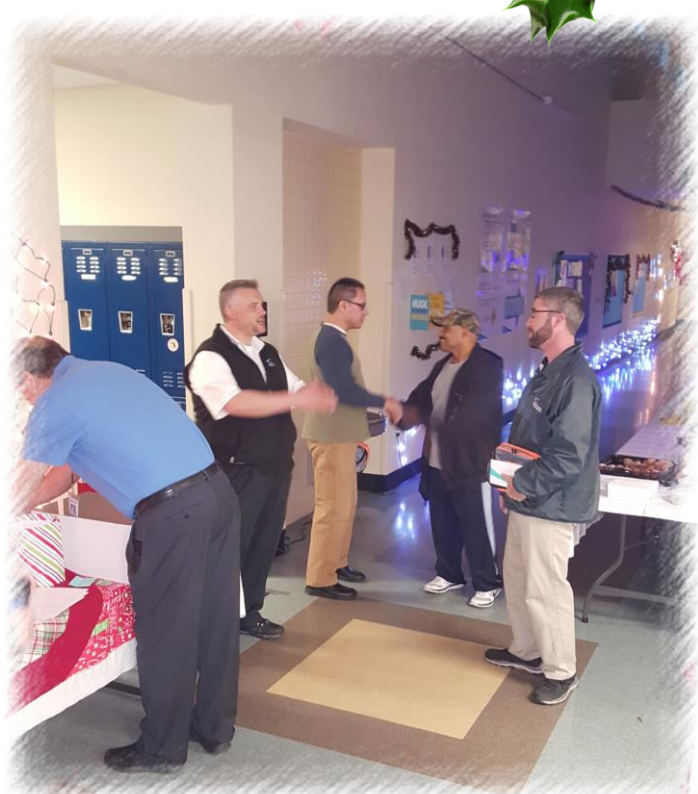


PSTA
Join us for the annual
Holiday Breakfast

Thursday, December 19th
4 A.M. to 9 A.M. Operators' Lounge

















A BEAUTIFUL RAINBOW SHINES OVER PSTA

Photo credit: AJ Ortiz, SS&T



A rainbow is a promise
of sunshine after rain
of calm after storms
of joy after sadness
of peace after pain
of love after loss



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.

