

BE THE DIFFERENCE

Florida Department of Transportation HIGHLIGHTS

A Newsletter for the Employees of District 2

June 2019

Chattin' with Greg

What gives you determination? What makes you successful? What makes you a winner? One word: MOTIVATION! Motivation gives you goose bumps. Motivation wakes you up. Motivation gives you a focused stare and squinted eyes. What is your motivator? Find it, know it, capture it and use it. Oddly enough, a pay check is rarely a primary motivator, as long as we have the essentials of life: food, shelter and clothing.



As a leader, you must be a motivator in order to get determination or a winning spirit from someone. You must understand what motivates that person. Harness it and then get out of their way! They will then become highly successful employees.

Now, we may not be natural, gifted motivators such as General George Patton or Coach Bear Bryant. Let me give you an example of motivation as a quick reference. Remember the movie Outlaw of Josey Wales, starring Clint Eastwood and filmed in 1976? The setting of the film is post-civil war. The particular scene I want to describe is where Josey and the folks traveling with him are holed-up in a cabin and are about to be attacked by bounty hunters. Before the attack, Josey looks at the group and motivates with this statement: "Now remember, when things look bad and it looks like you're not gonna make it, then you gotta get mean. I mean plumb, mad-dog mean. 'Cause if you lose your head and you give up then you neither live nor win. That's just the way it is." I know most of you may not enjoy old westerns as I do and I hope you are never under attack by bounty hunters! However, I hope you see and understand what I am saying.

*"What is your
motivator? Find it,
know it, capture it and
use it. "*

*- Greg Evans,
Secretary,
District Two*

Be the Difference!

- Greg



Crews make progress on the Fuller Warren Bridge on the Your10&95 project.

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Expect Delays

“The World Won’t Stop If Your Life Gets Delayed”

How many times do we get mad because things didn’t go our way?

Sometimes we believe the world revolves around us. I would be lying if I said delays don’t affect me. A few weeks ago, on June 3, 2019, I remember seeing an e-mail that read something like this:

Due to a vehicle crash at the interchange in Columbia county, Interstate 10 westbound mile marker 297, at the I-75 interchange) and northbound and southbound interstate are closed to traffic.

Like many others, my life was put on hold for a while. My regular 35-minute drive has now turned into 3 hours. Not what I expected! So, how do you deal with unexpected delays? We see them every day, whether we are sitting at an airport, doctor’s office, stuck in traffic, or waiting on that one person to return an important call. Unexpected events happen all the time, but if our minds are busy with expectations, we are not able to except reality.



“Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans”
-John Lennon

Reframe Your Expectations

1. Turn unexpected events into opportunities: Reframe the problem instead of thinking it’s a delay, you are getting extra time. Use it wisely
2. Be more mindful: Unexpected events change our perception. You are not the only one having delays. Everything happens for a reason.
3. Learn to look beyond your frustration: When we fight reality, our perception gets stuck. We get blinded by what we didn’t get instead of observing things in front of us.

“How You React To The Situation Around You Reveals the Character of the Person Inside Of You.” - R. Sadler

- *Ronnie Sadler, Organizational Development*

Be the Difference Awards



Cassie Hammond, District Materials
Accountability



Lisa Johnson, Chiefland Maintenance
Flexibility

The Be the Difference is an employee motivation and recognition program the highlights the accomplishments within District 2. The intent is to recognize employees who exhibit seven different values: Attitude, Relationships, Recognition, Accountability, Flexibility, Innovation, and Excellence.

Service Awards

SERVICE AWARDS 5 YEARS



DELANNA TOOKER
PROCUREMENT

SERVICE AWARDS 35 YEARS



TOMMIE HINES
GAINESVILLE MAINTENANCE

Also recognized, but not in attendance, were: Yasser Ibrahim, 5 years, bridge; Lewis Lang, 5 years, Perry Maintenance; Abimael Collazo-Vargas, 5 years, Traffic Operations; Orval Cook, 5 years, Gainesville Maintenance; Brian Kirts, 5 years, Jacksonville Construction; Guelmary Mendez-Torres, 10 years, Jacksonville Construction; Vanessa Taylor, 15 years, Perry Maintenance; Daniel Morgan, 20 years, Lake City Maintenance; and Selvin King, 25 years, Perry Maintenance. Congratulations!

SASHTO Scholarship Winners

Emily and Heather Fish, daughters of Charles Fish, were honored with SASHTO scholarships during the June staff meeting. Each year, the Florida Department of Transportation through the Southern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, awards college scholarships to eligible employee dependents. This year, FDOT received 55 applications statewide and presented 20 winners with \$775 each.

Congratulations to Emily and Heather! We know you're proud, Charles!



Supervisors Academy



District 2 hosted a Supervisors Academy during the month of June. Employees went through a week-long training and learned the traits that make a good supervisor, traits they will be able to put to good use. Those employees were: Edward Baugh, Glenn Bell, Larry Bland, Taylor Byrd, Sheldon Cash, Kyle Coffman, Kiersten Dicks, Randy Frame, Michael Harbert, Zhihong Hu, Cody Ko, Cassandra Lamey, Tommy Lee, Michael Pontani, DeLanna Tooker, Ivory Turner, Alex Varela, and Susan Wilson.



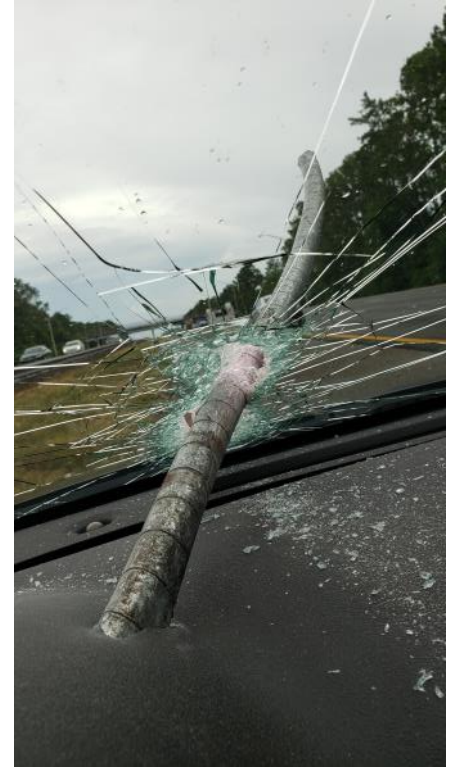
Scary Situation Leads to Praise for the Road Rangers

District 2's Caryn Craft, Jacksonville Maintenance, faced a scary situation last month following Take Your Child to Work Day that we're thankful was no worse than it was!

"On my way home I had a pipe/pole impale my car. I was on I-295 south just past Normandy exit and before Wilson Blvd exit at about 4:40pm. I had all my kids in my car. I was in the left lane when a white truck passed me on my right and as soon as the truck passed me I heard a loud pop and glass shattering. I had closed my eyes as a response to the glass flying. When I opened my eyes I saw a pole through my windshield. I put on my turn signal and pulled over to the left shoulder. I was trying to remember the number to FHP which I use quite often to report road hazards on my way home. I couldn't and ended up dialing 911. About 15 mins passed and the highway patrol and DOT's Road Ranger were on scene. It was a nice reassurance to see DOT on scene with me. DOT Road Ranger did leave as the officer told them he would remain with me.

I tell this to you for the praise of DOT's Road Ranger and the presence of my fellow co-workers."

Everyone in the car was OK, and we're thankful that Caryn was back at work in a couple of days! Always be careful when driving and keep your eyes on the road — you never know what can happen!



Damage Assessment Simulation

A special thanks to everyone who participated in the Damage Assessment Hurricane Simulation last month at the District Office. This mock-through hurricane simulation and training helps ensure proper communication between staff.



Something fun...Spot the Differences



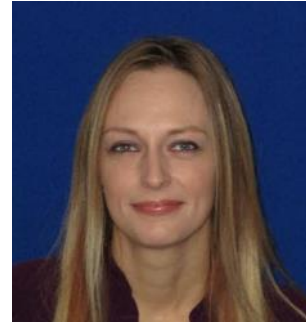
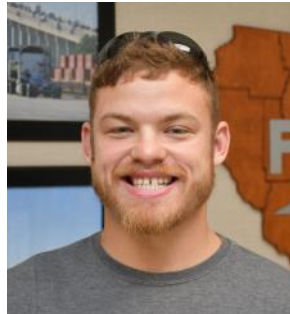
Can you spot the differences?

Spot the Differences...Answers!



Paving the St. Augustine Bay front.

New Employees



District 2 welcomed several new employees during the month of June. They were Peter Capiello, Heavy Equipment Operator, St. Augustine; Destiny Hill, Senior Clerk, Right of Way; Tyler Zenko, Intern, Gainesville Operations; Angelina Liu, Intern, Materials; Mary Klenk, Intern, Gainesville Operations; Shannon Ogburn, Senior Clerk, Bridge; Nicholas Albrecht, Highway Maintenance Technician II, Lake City Maintenance; Kelly Cherisma, Intern, Design; and Melinda Register, Computer Support Technician I, IT. Welcome to District 2!

Retirees



FDOT had two retirees during the month of May.

Bob Kosoy, Jacksonville Maintenance, retired after 9 years of service with FDOT, and Glenn Howlett, Materials, retired after 13 years.

Congratulations to you on your retirement!



Have something you'd like to submit for Highlights?

Send an e-mail to Troy Roberts at troy.roberts@dot.state.fl.us with your idea and we'll try to include it in future editions of Highlights!