The Centennial Carillon Bell Tower has long been a “century marker of learning, a symbol of freedom and a monument linking the past, the present, and the future.” Its groundbreaking ceremony occurred on February 14, 1975 where then-president of Brigham Young University, Dallin H. Oaks, presided. The dedication for the completed tower was held October 10, 1975 where Spencer W. Kimball presided and performed the dedication.

For forty one years we have heard the bells chime on campus, rarely missing a beat, reminding us of the hour and lifting our spirits as we hear the determination in the tones of *Come, Come Ye Saints*. Often, if you are lucky, you can hear, as you pass through the walks of campus, a talented student or a master carilloneur striking out a familiar tune with harmonic tones.

The planning of the bell tower started years earlier with a feasibility study made by Physical Facilities Director Sam F. Brewster under the direction of Earnest L. Wilkinson. The idea was planted and the Brigham Young University Centennial director George Barrus soon recommended the concept to Lorin F. Wheelwright and the new BYU administration who eagerly accepted the idea as an appropriate icon to ring in a new century of learning and enlightenment.

The centennial year of 1975 was a busy year for Physical Facilities. President Dallin H. Oaks made it clear that the Centennial Carillon Bell Tower project with its timeline of nine months from start to finish would not interfere with the construction schedules or funding of the other high profile projects such as the addition to the Harold B. Lee Library. The bell tower project was funded by monies saved by the student body and through generous contributions of faculty, alumni and friends of the University.

This year as part of a CNA maintenance project, you have likely noticed the scaffolding that wrapped the building. This was to get a closer look at the structure and to inspect and make repairs where needed. The scaffolding is also what made it possible to safely re-roof the top of the tower. The lighting system has been upgraded and bird netting was installed to keep the bells cleaner and brighter for the future.

The Centennial Carillon Bell Tower has been a wonderful tribute to the founders of Brigham Young University and their sacrifices for education.
The Physical Facilities Custodial Repair Shop has been in existence for over 25 years. Shop personnel consist of three full-time employees and three student employees. The purpose for the shop is to keep all campus custodial equipment in top working order. We boast a one-day turn around on most equipment repairs. Our recently remodeled shop adds to the efficiency of that task, making it a treat to work here.

One shop task that may not be as well known is picking up and returning equipment in need of repair to 20 different areas and 45 different buildings on campus and fielding questions and requests from those building supervisors. Other things the shop is responsible for include electrical diagnosis (ac/dc) and repair, pump/vacuum repair, small engine diagnosis and repair, hydraulic cylinder replacement and repair, some upholstery, some carpentry, numerous welding and fabrication jobs, filling the buildings’ gas and chemical dispensers. During certain seasons we’re also busy delivering and retrieving each buildings’ Christmas trees, and supplying all buildings with snow and ice melt as needed. Daily tasks involve picking up time cards for each employee from each area, collecting all lost and found, installing all hand soap, paper towel, and hand sanitizer dispensers in the Marriott Center, LaVell Edwards Stadium and all academic buildings, and delivering supplies ordered by each different building. Though our plate is pretty full, we enjoy our time working at BYU.

Tyson Ricks was born in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and although he moved 13 times as he grew up, it’s Utah and BYU that has called him home. He’s worked for BYU for seven years both in Grounds Gardening Maintenance and in Site Development and loves associating with the remarkable employees. He likes the fact that he can impact others’ lives as they impact him and finds that “we change each other for the better.” He and his wife, Jessica, currently live in Provo, Utah, and have four children: August (9), Lucy (6), Maggie (5) and Alice (2). Tyson loves learning so he’s almost always reading (about 200 books a year) and recently graduated with a Master of Public Administration. He loves scouting (he’s currently the Vacany counselor) and has become involved in Girl Scouts with his four beautiful daughters. At one time, Tyson was focused on martial arts and dreamed of his own dojo (shiden) and teaching Kenpo Karate. Though that ship has sailed, he still enjoys following the sport of Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) and Ultimate Fighting Championships (UFC). Tyson loves snowshoeing, mountain biking, camping, hiking, and any activity that takes him in the mountains. He participated in the full-contact sport of medieval combat, jousting, and is happiest when his family joins him in all these activities. He is compassionate, friendly, and driven to be better ever in the accepting of others. His hope is that people can say he is trying to live like an Eagle Scout everyday.

Mykel Katsumi Tatsuyo Davis was born in beautiful Hollywood, California, and raised in the beautiful Valley of Northern California. He has worked at BYU for five years in Planning as a Programming Architect where he loves helping people find solutions for their problems in their work or school life. Mykel and his wife, Heather, live in the small “Enchanted Forest” of Salt Lake City where he enjoys restaurants, photography, genealogy, computers, DIY home projects, vegetable gardening, landscaping, barbecuing/cooking, volunteering, singing, camping/backpacking, fishing, email/digital/online. Mykel is half-Japanese, but speaks fluent Spanish and German and continues to learn Korean. He enjoys participating in tennis, cycling, yoga, body-weight workouts, clay target shooting, hunting, marksmanship, watching football, volleyball, and basketball. Mykel is extremely responsible and friendly, with a good dose of sarcasm and jokes thrown in, and is a joy to be around.

Deanna O’Hara was born and raised in beautiful Hemet, California, and is a proud member of the Class of 2016. She has worked at BYU for two years in Auxiliary Services where she loves working with the students and finds that “today is truly different and challenging.” Deanna and her husband, Randy, live in Salem, Utah. She is the proud owner of her six children: Taylor (21), Sarah (19), Ashley (18), Rachel (16) and twins Jackson and Tate (10) and considers them her greatest accomplishment in life. She is a graduate of UVU (degree in History Education), Deseret (the piano), and loves to watch football at BYU and at the high school. Deanna enjoys scouting out yard sales and making old things new, working in the garden taking care of her flowers, painting and writing. She especially loves getting on trips with her husband. Deanna is extremely responsible and friendly, with a good dose of sarcasm and jokes thrown in, and is a joy to be around.

Congratulations to our 2016 Scholarship Recipients:

Congratulations to our senior 2016 Student Scholarship Recipients: (from left to right) Luke Perl, Valerie Hibbert, Lindsay Park, Rachel Davies, Clayton Reynolds, Spencer Davies, Tayla Wells, Kekeolani Kekeolani, Jessica Devizio, Ryan Ripplestein, Megan Stout, Daniel Johnston, Amanda Grant, and Adam Lewis (Travis Davies & Courtinn Ripp). Thank you also to the many employees who have generously contributed to make this program a success!
According to many baseball aficionados, Sandy Koufax, a left-handed pitcher for the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers from 1955 to 1966 was one of the best pitchers, if not the best pitcher, in Major League history. I’m not writing to convince anyone that he was, or was not, but some statistics on his 12-year career, cut short at age 31 by acute arthritis, show what a remarkable pitcher he became. Sandy’s career started on a somewhat slow note. In his first two years he only struck out 60 batters and in his first six years his win/loss record was 36-40 with five shutouts. But something remarkable happened after that. From 1961-1966, the next six years, Sandy had a win/loss record of 129-47 with 35 shutouts. In the last two years of his career he struck out 730 batters. He also set a major league record by pitching a no-hitter in four consecutive years from 1962-1965, including a perfect game on September 9, 1965 against the Chicago Cubs. Sandy, despite the debilitating pain of his crippling arthritis, just got better and better each year including winning 25 games or more in three of his last four years. His drive for excellence was, and is, an inspiring example of staying focused on his number one responsibility (winning games) and concentrating his efforts to make sure he was always prepared and ready. He learned from his earlier experiences and used each success or failure to masterfully plan, shape and eventually dominate each of his future efforts. I like to think that we, in Physical Facilities, are doing much the same. Our past has given us a great foundation and has strengthened and prepared us for the unprecedented quantity and quality of projects we are asked to accomplish today. In our own way each of us now has the chance to become a Sandy Koufax of BYU. Go pitch your own perfect game!