Every other Friday at lunchtime, a handful of employees of the School of Social Work brings a bag lunch to work — and a needle.

The employees come together at noon, gathering around a large panel of cloth. Meticulously, they sew bits and pieces of handiwork on to the cloth, their old-fashioned quilting bee, says Social Work Professor Anne Strozier.

"We do feel we've gotten a lot of awareness and community at USF," she said. "In my 15 years at USF, this is one of the events that has made me proud to be an employee and a student."

After the quilt is assembled on USF World AIDS Day on Dec. 1 in the Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza, the 3-foot by 6-foot panels will be separated and distributed to area organizations to display. Some of the panels are displayed at the Life Sy House during President Betty Castor's holiday events, Phillips said. Last year's event was an emotional one, according to Phillips.

"I couldn't help but cry," she said. "The idea of people getting together and doing these things shows that we care," Phillips, who is working towards her master's in Communications, said. "I think it says a lot about us as a university to have this," Phillips said. "In my 15 years at USF, this is one of the events that has made me proud to be an employee and a student."

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The NAMES project is a quilt which now bears 41,000 panels, representing 70,000 people who contracted AIDS.

Intrigued, she brought the idea to the university HIV/AIDS Committee, which decided USF should have a similar project of its own. The quilt creates not only awareness of the disease, but also camaraderie among the employees who create the panels, Phillips said. Strozier admits her group is already looking forward to making another panel next year.

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"MLK Plaza used to be just a big field," Phillips said.

These improvements will be continuing in the next year, and how. A New Psychology and Communication Sciences and Disorders Building, improved residence halls, more parking and greenways are just some of the projects slated to be under way soon.

To help the university community understand exactly what those bulldozers are doing on campus in the next years, Inside USF created the "Master Plan 2000" insert, which shows just some of the improvements we can expect to see.

The master plan, a detailed report on expected improvements to USF, is a long one. Only the immediate projects are shown in this issue’s insert.

The campus will lose the use of Laurel Drive in order to allot the space to bigger projects. Magnolia Drive is expected to handle Laurel’s traffic.

“We are winning the battle to persuade students to think of USF as their university of first choice,” President Betty Castor recently said in her presidential address. “We can declare victory for this year. Despite strong competition from the private sector, as well as our sister state institutions, we grew impressively in this key category.”

The campus continues to grow to meet these needs.

Campbell surpasses $155 million

With its public phase now one year old, USF’s ongoing “Campaign for USF” has surpassed $155 million in pledges and gifts against a $220 million goal, school leaders say.

It is the meat of the 42-year-old institution has raised in a capital campaign. USF’s only previous capital effort ended in 1992, having surpassed its $111-million goal with $116 million.

“We are extremely grateful that our many friends have been so generous toward this campaign,” said USF Vice President for Advancement Kathy Stafford. “The money that this effort is raising will greatly enhance the program-oriented opportunities available to students at our university.”

Among the more prominent gifts received since the campaign began its public phase last October:

• A $100,000 gift from George and Bobbe Karpay to endow scholarships.

• A large collection of books on Greek and Roman art and architecture valued at more than $100,000 from Bill Zevvadaki, a Tampa attorney.

• A $200,000 endowment, which was announced Nov. 20, from Mildred and Doyle Carlson of Naples for the new USF Resource Center for Florida History and Politics, located on the fourth floor of the Tampa campus Library. The Carltons also gave $100,000 to endow a football scholarship earlier this year.

• A $5,000 commitment from Bob and Diane Roskamp, made public earlier this year, to fund development of new treatments for Alzheimer’s.

• And the Honeywell Foundation’s gift worth $1.02 million that will fund engineering labs and scholarships for Hispanic students.

The Campaign for USF has already pushed the USF Foundation’s total assets to more than $233 million. In this state, only the University of Florida, which is more than 100 years older than USF, has faced better in generating private financial support.

By Todd Martinez-Padilla Simmons

Points of Pride

Celebrating 25 years! The College of Nursing is celebrating 25 years of providing education and service this year.

Actions speak louder than words: Instructor Barbara Basinger. Leading of Special Education is working with Polk County preschool developmental kindergarten classrooms to examine the impact of creating a classroom rich with symbols and pictures, to help non-speaking children communicate.

Insert shows university improvements

It only takes a few years at USF to see the major changes taking place on campus. New buildings, renovations and landscaping are popping up quicker than you can say, “MLK Plaza used to be just a big field.”

These improvements will be continuing in the next year, and how. A New Psychology and Communication Sciences and Disorders Building, improved residence halls, more parking and greenways are just some of the projects slated to be under way soon.

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The new Psychology/Communication Sciences and Disorders building, shown above as a model, is slated to be completed by fall 2000.

All Psyched Up

Psych/CSd building creates elbow room

The fall semester in 2000, more than 2,000 students, up to 80 faculty members and 20 staff members will have new classrooms, offices, clinics and research laboratories. That’s when the new, 110,000-foot Psychology/Communication Sciences and Disorders building is scheduled to open on USF’s Tampa campus.

The building’s total budget is $25 million, which includes new parking lots, architectural fees and permits, said Barbara Donerly, division head for planning and programming, and an architect for USF’s Facilities Planning office.

Parking lot construction will start in February 1999, and building construction will follow in May, said Laurel Drive, which runs north and south through the construction area, will be closed in December. Laurel will provide access to parking lots, and north/south through traffic will use Magnolia Drive. New driveways to four parking lots on Laurel will allow cars to access Magnolia Drive.

The building’s architect is Alfonso Architects of Ybor City; Alfonso also designed the Center for Urban Transportation Research building on the Tampa campus.

This new building will link the academic core of the campus, as well as Fine Arts, with the Health Sciences area, including the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Donerly said. A pedestrian walkway lined with tall palm trees and oaks will link the areas.

With 110,000 square feet and four stories, the new building will become one of the largest on the Tampa campus, Donerly said. Since students sometimes sit on the floors in the Communications Sciences and Disorders department’s clinic, the new, larger space is eagerly anticipated, said department chair Arthur Guilford. Currently, the department and its students are jammed into space in the Behavioral Science and Social Science buildings.

by Lisa Cunningham

St. Pete campus breaks ground for pediatrics research building

Children who have already benefited from medical breakthroughs helped break ground in late October for a research building.

The building is a joint project of USF and All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg. The $12.2-million building is designed to provide world-class laboratories for USF’s researchers at All Children’s Hospital and others to fill four new, highly-covered USF endowed chairs in pediatrics.

The building will be the home of the Children’s Research Institute. This will be the region’s pre-eminent center for research to help children with disease,” said USF President Betty Castor. “It will have the two-part mission of discovering new knowledge about pediatric disease, and of translating that knowledge to the bedside as quickly as possible. Children can’t wait.”

The partnership between All Children’s and USF created funding for the building. All Children’s Hospital gave USF contributions that were earmarked for research purposes totaling $6 million, and the state matched that amount.

The city of St. Petersburg transferred ownership of one city block at the corner of Fourth Street South and Sixth Avenue South to the university to provide a site for the building.

The building will have four stories, mostly of laboratories — 50,000 square feet in all.

Leading the shovel brigade was a trio of youngsters who have already been touched by the types of medical research planned for the new facility. They included David Young, a 4-year-old All Children’s heart transplant recipient from Lake Worth; Kristal Blady, an 8-year-old from Winter Park who underwent pediatric transplantation at All Children’s for a rare genetic disorder; and Steven Cornell Adams, an 8-year-old from Tampa whose cancer is being treated under an experimental drug protocol.

Joining Castor at the groundbreaking were J. Dennis Sexton, president of All Children’s Hospital; Martin L. Silberman, USF vice president for Health Sciences and dean of Medicine; Gary Litman, USF Hines professor of Pediatrics; and William Heller, dean of USF St. Petersburg.

“This partnership is more than a building,” Sexton said. “In total, we have jointly created an endowed fund of $26 million, which will support four endowed chairs for pre-eminent investigators and their research teams to focus on solving some of the biggest mysteries of illnesses in children.

“At a time when funds for research and academic medicine are growing scarce, it’s especially fortunate that we are able to establish such a center. And it’s a tribute to the forward-thinking members of our hospital, foundation boards and generous donors committed to research in children’s health that this partnership proceeds.”

The building’s cutting-edge design was guided by faculty input from researchers like Litman. Its top three floors will be dedicated to laboratory space, where investigators will share centralized bays of major instrumentation such as DNA sequencers, robotic work stations and phosphoimagers.

Designed by Flad and Associates and Alfonso Ar

USF St. Petersburg recently broke ground for a new pediatrics building, a joint project with All Children’s Hospital. The building, home to the Children’s Research Institute, will be built by Bovis Construction Co. The ground floor will house the Tampa Bay office of the Institute for Child Health Policy, a nationally-recognized policy center that collaborates with USF, University of Florida and other academic centers. As many as 100 researchers in the fields of mythology, allergy, cardiac transplantation, endocrinology, molecular cardiology, developmental pediatrics, and child health policy will fund a setting for studies that encourages collaboration and intellectual exchange.

by Michael I