

## Facilities prepares Samford Park for the holidays



Teams from landscaping, carpentry and Zone 4 electricians bring the holidays to life in Samford Park by decorating the tree, placing the menorah and hanging wreathes on Samford Hall.

To find out, let's take a walk down memory lane.

In 2002, Landscape Services Supervisor Glenn Rodgers and his team began decorating a large Holly tree at the northeast corner of Samford Hall. In 2006, a pre-cut tree was the decorated.

Glenn's team continued to decorate the tree until 2013 when Chris Channell, Brittany Foster and Anthony Smith took over and managed the decorations until 2018.

SGA sponsored the tree and provided lights and orange and blue bows until 2015 when Facilities took over the entire responsibility.

Interesting fact, from 2016–18 the same decorations were used each year. From 2019 to the present, the tree's holiday décor has changed each year.

"When the ornaments are taken down, Brittany Foster counts and inventories what is still usable for the next year," said Justin Sutton, director of Landscape Services. "Usually around July, Brittany, Cory Akers and I begin discussing décor options. Once a plan is in place, decorations are purchased. Sometimes the plan changes a bit based on product availability."

Catch a glimpse of landscaping decorating the tree in Facilities' holiday video.

*It takes a village to decorate the loveliest village each year. This year's participants were:*

**Landscaping:**

Chris Channell  
Michael Sanford  
Jeff Dyal  
Zach Wright  
Daniel Keeble  
Tyler Winchester  
Brittany Foster  
Alex Hedgepath  
Lance Stockman  
Cory Akers  
Justin Sutton  
Dalton Sconyers

**Carpentry:**

Brook Ward  
Frank Chappell

**Electricians:**

Emory Dillard  
Chad Morgan  
Brett Barron  
Tyler Brown

"Take a look at this picture," said a passerby as she stopped to take a photo with the Auburn University Christmas tree. "I think it turned out great. I like seeing Samford Hall in the background."

The story behind this "selfie-worthy" holiday campus location dates back to 2007 when Landscape Services Supervisor John Vollor and his team planted a 10-foot-tall Green Giant Arborvitae on Samford lawn so that it could easily be seen from South College Street.

Today, the now 30-foot-tall tree has become the official Auburn University Christmas tree.

Who are the elves that bring this Auburn tradition to life each year?

**Thank you for bringing the holidays to campus!**

# Employee Communications *from the Office of Employee Engagement*

## **Congratulations**

**Congratulations to Wade Kennedy** for completing his OSHA 30 Hour Outreach Training Program in Construction.

**Congratulations to Kirkland Cogle** on his promotion to a Tech I Landscape position.

**Congratulations to Utilities & Energy** for passing 1,400 days since their last personal injury.

**Congratulations to Utilities & Energy** for passing 100 days since their last vehicle incident.

**Congratulations to Rob Engle** for completing the Supervisor Pathways Program through AUHR.

**Congratulations to Ken Martin** for graduating with a master's in engineering management.

**Congratulations to Garrett Nixon** on his promotion to an Electrician II position.

**Congratulations to Haiden Boyles** for graduating with a bachelor's in media studies.

**Congratulations to the following FM employees** who received a cash award for November 2021:

- Reta Jackson
- Elijah Jenkins
- Chase Kilpatrick
- Christina Knight
- Jasmine Pressley
- Jeffery Riley
- Sonora Russell
- Thomas Tatum
- Tripp Thrash
- Tony Wolfe
- Jason Yeomans

## **New Employees/Welcome**

**Roy Bearden** – Tech II, Service Support – Service Support – Dec. 6.

**Naquitha Bowen** – TES – Contract Services – Nov. 8.

**Charles Gosdin** – Groundskeeper II – Landscape Services – Dec. 6.

**Wes Henderson** – TES – Materials Management – Dec. 13.

**Miller Jensen** – TES – Landscape Services – Nov. 22.

**Peter Taddeo** – Inventory Control Clerk II – Materials Management – Nov. 22.

## **Retirements/resignations**

**Richard Braley** – Zone 3 – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Emma Bynum** – Custodial Services – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Johnny Clark** – IHC – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Greg Coltrane** – Zone 2 – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Brett Elder** – Fabrication – resigned effective Jan. 11.

**Judy Hazelrigs** – Maintenance – retiring effective Feb. 1.

**Maurice Jackson** – Zone 1 – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Nora Macon** – Custodial Services – retiring effective Jan. 1.

**Eric Newman** – PM – resigned effective Jan. 3.

**Rick Traylor** – FHR – retiring effective Feb. 1.

## **Facilities Training**

Recommended Training Courses

LinkedIn Learning:

### **“Process Improvement Foundations”**

Learn how to:

- Recall how to measure processes.
- Discover how to use statistical process control.
- Assess the quality, cost and time trade-off.
- Analyze methods of reducing cost by reducing waste.
- Identify how to improve delivery time.
- Define the Lean and Six Sigma processes.

Length: 1 hour, 18 minutes.

### **“Implementing Continuous Improvement: A Case Study”**

See continuous improvement at work. Find out how the pioneering software development firm Menlo Innovations created a more productive, fulfilling workplace.

Length: 2 hours, 12 minutes.

## **Contact for training sessions:**

Kathleen Jones | [ktj0004@auburn.edu](mailto:ktj0004@auburn.edu) | 334-844-9411 | Building 1, Room 1173D  
The training calendar can be found at

<https://aub.ie/trainingcalendar>.

## **Employment Opportunities**

For positions currently posted, please scan the QR code below:



*The close date for a posted position occasionally is extended. Check the dates at [auemployment.com](http://auemployment.com).*

*For more information about, or to apply for the jobs listed above, visit the Auburn University online employment site at [auemployment.com](http://auemployment.com).*

**These announcements are gathered by the Facilities Management Office of Employee Engagement. Submit announcements via email to Cynthia Baccus at [geercyn@auburn.edu](mailto:geercyn@auburn.edu).**

## **Congratulations to all of the 2021 Holiday Luncheon doorprize winners!**

### **Paintings:**

Lance Stockman  
Bill Moorer  
Christina Knight  
Karen Whitehead

### **Ornaments:**

Jory Garnto  
Gina Mann  
Matt Skinner  
Nathan Wohleb

### **Flowers:**

Daniel Brand  
Terry Carter  
Kyle Cordie  
Tracy Dixon  
Denise Roebuck  
Dustyn Rougier  
Earnest Teel  
Eddie Struzick

### **Coolers:**

Kirkland Cogle  
Matt Geer  
Eric Newman

### **Portfolios:**

Ellen Doyle  
Brian Philpot

### **Pullover:**

Michael Sanford

### **Backpacks:**

Wendy Peacock  
David Roberson

# Holiday luncheon a first inside campus' new dining hall



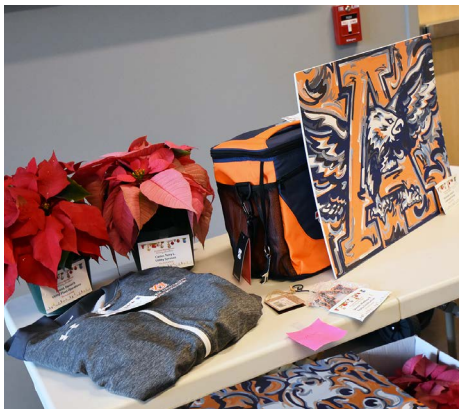
*The Facilities team enjoys one of the newest dining options on campus inside The Edge at the Central Dining Hall.*



*Electrician Danny Bentley visits the second floor taco station to grab some yellow rice to go along with his lunch.*



*From left: Wes Miller and Matthew Skinner dine on the second floor overlooking the main dining area below.*

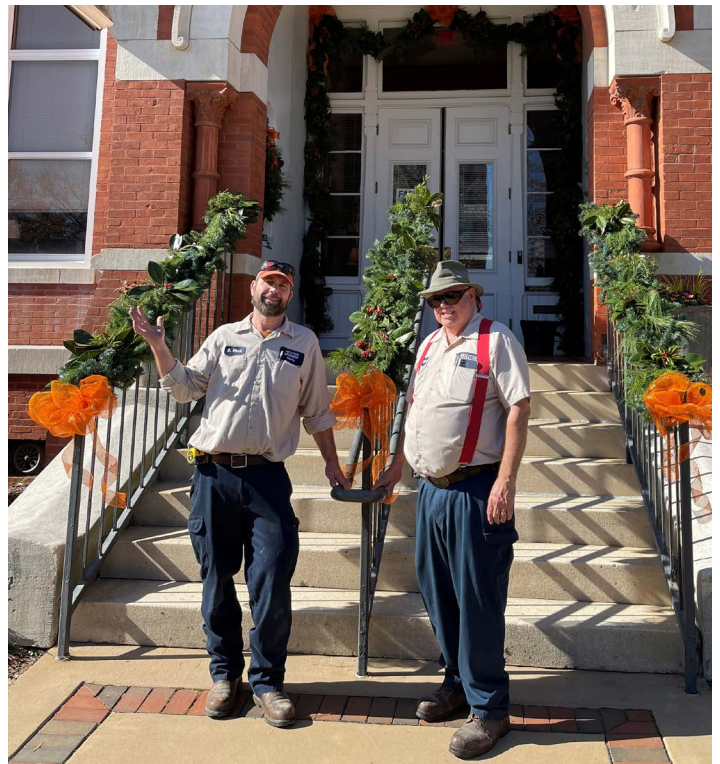


*A collection of AUsome doorprizes waiting for their future owners.*



*From left: HR's Loren Wynn, Karen Whitehead, Cynthia Baccus and Jessica Johnson. Kathleen Jones and Christy Kimbrough were mingling when this photo was taken.*

# Hargis Hall decorated for the holidays



Brook Ward and Frank Chappell of Zone 4 place garland on the front of Hargis Hall. Julie Reece of the Graduate School said, "Brook and Frank made Hargis Hall beautiful this year. These guys really make the Auburn Family special." Greenery for the garland was provided by Landscape Services' Brittany Foster. Photos by Julie Reece.

## SAMFORD LAWN TREE NUMBERS

### Ornaments

60 Orange 8-inch Glitter Balls

60 Blue 8-inch Glitter Balls

90 Orange 6-inch Teardrops

72 Blue 6-inch Teardrops

84 White 6-inch Balls

### Fun Facts

- Sequin balls have been used, but they only last one year due to fading.
- More than 240 feet of ribbon is used each year.
- More than 1,250 bulbs are on the tree.



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