

## Operations team faces chilling challenges Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve 2022, custodial manager Rico Harvey drove up from Montgomery to pick up custodian Sharon Smith and meet custodial supervisor Carolyn Brown at Davis Hall. Their destination was not to attend a holiday party or some festive event—it was to aid in cleaning water damage from a pipe that burst within the building.

Just hours after a cold front brought extremely low temperatures to Alabama on Dec. 23, Facilities’ teams were called in to assist in cleanup and repair of damage caused by the freezing weather.

“We had pipe burst issues in 21 different buildings, a natural gas curtailment and some outside utility line issues,” said Dan Whatley, assistant vice president of Facilities Operations. “The response required all Operations directorates.”

According to FM Director of Maintenance Eric Moore, the leaks and damage were found over the course of three days (Dec. 23-26).

“We monitored the weather forecast so we knew about the extreme cold weather,” Moore said, “and we planned for and scheduled additional personnel to be on campus to inspect buildings and look for issues inside and outside of buildings.

“Once we started finding issues, we called in additional personnel for help. We did respond to all reports of leaks and damage. We had support from Utilities and Energy in finding

causes of issues and from Campus Services for building inspections and cleanup.”

In addition to assisting with cleanup projects, on-call Campus Services employees also walked through all previously cleaned buildings to make sure there were no unreported burst pipes.

“Our custodial team assisted with cleanup in Davis Hall, Walker Building and Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum,” said Dee Sneed, director of Campus Services. “They brought in the necessary equipment to aid in the cleanup of water and fallen ceiling tiles.”

Utilities and Energy received a call on Dec. 23 from natural gas

company Spire Inc. requesting the university go on curtailment as soon as possible—shifting boilers at the central plants from natural gas to fuel oil.

“The curtailment effort was to help with the increased demand for natural gas due to the extreme cold,” said Ken Martin, director of Utilities and Energy. “I have been at the university 18 years, and this is the first time we have been asked to go on curtailment.”

Plant Operations members arrived the morning of Dec. 24 and began the curtailment process. The university operated on curtailment until Dec. 26.

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## Listen to our inaugural podcast



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**Beyond the Bricks tells the stories of Auburn University’s Facilities Management Department and its award-winning impact across campus.**

*Our first episode features Justin Sutton of Landscape Services talking with us about the department’s national award.*

# General Announcements *January*

## Welcome New Employees

**Rob Engle** – Utilities Engineer –  
Utilities and Energy – Nov. 20

**Quantez Powell** – Tech I, HVACR –  
Maintenance Zone 4 – Nov. 20

**Cedric Ramsey** – Solid Waste  
Tech I – Waste Reduction and  
Recycling – Nov. 27

**Grant Kirby** – Supervisor, Plant  
Operations – Utility Plant Operations  
– Nov. 27

**Andy White** – Carpenter I –  
Maintenance Zone 4 – Nov. 27

**Judd Langham** – Asst. Director,  
Campus Planning & Space  
Management – Planning, Design &  
Construction – Dec. 4

**Andrew Spurlin** – Asst. Director,  
Construction Management –  
Planning, Design & Construction –  
Dec. 4

**Breanna Geer** – Facilities  
Coordinator I – Project Support –  
Dec. 4

**Jamie Wheelles** – Manager IV,  
Facilities Project – In-House  
Construction – Dec. 4

**Jessica Daniel** – Tech I, Plant  
Operations – Utility Plant Operations  
– Dec. 12

**Ezra Robinson** – Groundskeeper I –  
Landscape Services – Dec. 12

**Shaun Carden** – Tech II,  
Construction – In-House  
Construction – Dec. 19

**Zatavious Jackson** – Solid Waste  
Tech I – Waste Reduction and  
Recycling – Jan. 3

**Jacob Farr** – Painter I – Maintenance  
Zone 3 – Jan. 3

**Joshua Strong** – Tech I, HVACR –  
Maintenance Zone 2 – Jan. 3

**David Mills** – Groundskeeper I –  
Landscape Services – Jan. 3

**Anthony Hunt** – Asbestos Tech I –  
Heavy Construction – Jan. 3

**Kevin Jackson** – Tech I, Sign –  
Fabrication – Jan. 3

**Jordan Sandlin** – TES University  
Mail Tech – Mail Services – Jan. 3

**Iteria Canada** – TES University Mail  
Tech – Mail Services – Jan. 3

## Retirements/Resignations

**Athen Scarioni** – Groundskeeper  
II – Landscape Services – resigned  
effective Nov. 28

**Joetta Good** – Asst. Manager, Mail  
Services – Mail Services – resigned  
effective Dec. 2

**Tracy Mask** – Supervisor, Facilities  
Zone Maintenance – Maintenance  
Zone 3 – retired effective Jan. 1

**Malcolm Dailey** – Asst. Director,  
Utilities & Energy – Utilities & Energy  
– retired effective Jan. 1

**Cynthia Baccus** – Coordinator,  
Employee Engagement – Facilities  
HR – retired effective Jan. 1

**Steve Haney** – Executive Director,  
Design & Construction – PD&C –  
resigned effective Jan. 13

**Brad Johnson** – Maintenance  
Engineer – Maintenance – resigned  
effective Jan. 31

**Cherry Buckhannon** – Custodian II –  
Custodial Services – retired effective  
Feb. 1

**Frank Bentley** – Plumber I –  
Maintenance Zone 1 – retired  
effective Feb. 1

**Ricky Birchfield** – HVACR Tech  
II – Maintenance Zone 2 – retired  
effective Feb. 1

**David Knowles** – Student Worker  
– Waste Reduction and Recycling –  
resigned effective Feb. 1

## Congratulations to

**Travis Davis** for passing his  
Fundamentals of Engineering test.

**Anthony Green** – Solid Waste Tech  
I to Solid Waste Tech II – Waste  
Reduction and Recycling – promoted  
effective Jan. 1

## General

**Notary services** are available at  
AUFM free of charge! We have two  
notaries onsite located in Building 1.  
Please feel free to reach out to them  
if you are ever in need of a notary.

Susan Miller – [sgm0019@auburn.edu](mailto:sgm0019@auburn.edu)  
or (334) 740-9300

Samson Lastinger – [szl0057@auburn.edu](mailto:szl0057@auburn.edu)  
or (334) 844-8738

## Employment Opportunities

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



These announcements are gathered by the  
Facilities Management Office of Employee  
Engagement. Submit announcements via email  
to Christy Bumpers at  
[clk0022@auburn.edu](mailto:clk0022@auburn.edu).



## Congratulations to the following FM employees who received a cash award for January 2023:

- Corrina Akers
- Seana Allen
- Shane Allen
- John Askew (2)
- Reagan Barfoot
- Coy Bass
- DAndre Benson
- Danny Bentley
- John Berry
- Nick Blair
- Jeffrey Brisky
- Carolyn Brown
- Emily Bryant
- Larry Burt
- Wesley Burt
- Tyler Caldwell
- Terry Carter (2)
- Joey Catrett
- Christopher Channell
- Michael Cobb
- Anthony Coleman
- Christopher Coleman
- James Coleman
- Kyle Cordie
- Brandon Counts
- Kevin Courtwright
- Nicholas Czerkawski
- Michael De La Cruz
- Emory Dillard
- Daniel Dix (2)
- Jerry Dowdell
- Ellen Doyle
- Anthony Driver
- James Duncan
- Chauntel Dunnigan
- Nate Evans
- Lisa Florence
- Jason Foshee
- Matthew Geer
- Broderick Gibson
- Dee Anne Gillespie
- DeAndre Gilmore (2)
- Charles Gosdin Jr.
- Kenneth Gray
- Aaron Grimmett
- Derek Hall
- Forrest Hall
- Amie Hart (2)
- Nina Hollingsworth
- Jessica Johnson
- Tristian Jackson
- Elijah Jenkins
- Vanessa Jerido
- Kevin Jones
- Robert Joyce
- Daniel Keeble
- Chase Kilpatrick
- George Kirkpatrick
- Matthew Kosier
- Lucy Kriel
- Josh Lane
- Judd Langham
- Neil Lawson (2)
- Jerry Ledbetter
- Blake Lloyd
- Charles Locke
- James Lyons
- Charles Maddox
- Gina Mann
- Michial McCormick
- Reed McPherson
- Evan Milton
- Darrin Moody
- Eric Moon
- Dora Moore
- Brady Morgan
- Chad Morgan (2)
- David Morgan
- Jenna Morgan
- Scott Morgan
- Stephanie Morgan
- Teresina Muhammad
- Andrew Mullins
- Keith Nall
- Steven Neighbors
- Garrett Nixon
- Nick Nowlin
- Cory O'Neal
- Grant Peterson
- Hattie Pierson
- Christopher Potts
- Bradley Prater
- Christopher Pruitt
- Pedro Ramirez
- Bruce Reid
- Ezra Robinson
- David Robison
- Todd Rogers
- Jerome Russell
- Michael Sanford
- Dalton Sconyers
- Cole Shafer
- Scott Simpson
- Matthew Skinner
- Anthony Smith
- Arlin Spraggins (2)
- Rob Stanford
- Drusilla Stinson
- Jessie Stinson
- Stephen Stroud
- Christopher Sullivan
- Phillip Thompson
- Willie Trimble
- Torrence Turk
- John Vollar
- Zachary Vollar
- Burke Wagoner
- Hongbiao Wang
- Nikki Washington
- James Watts
- Tony Wolfe
- Zach Wright
- Jason Yeomans (2)
- Roberto Zugazaga

## General Announcements *February*

### Welcome New Employees

**Pascal Onyeka** – IT Student Worker  
– Info Tech – Jan. 9

**James Hill** – Student Worker –  
Landscape Services – Jan. 15

**Cara Cenatempo** – TES Human  
Resources Assistant – FM HR –  
Jan. 17

**Dylan Smith** – Tech I, Sign –  
Fabrication – Jan. 17

**Mark Aniadaga** – GA - Plan Vault –  
PD&C – Jan. 17

**Justin Smith** – Electrician I – In-  
House Construction – Jan. 29

**Nathan Phillips** – Carpenter II –  
Zone 3 – Jan. 29

**Brandon Denson** – Floor Care  
Custodian (Night Shift) – Custodial  
Services – Feb. 5

**Colton Tuck** – Groundskeeper I –  
Landscape Services – Feb. 5

**Megan Mackey** – Facilities  
Coordinator I – Campus Services –  
Feb. 12

**Hayley White** – Human Resources  
Generalist I – FM HR – Feb. 19

**Stephen Haney** – TES Estimator –  
PD&C – Feb. 20

### Retirements/Resignations

**Wanda Jones** – TES Administrative  
Support – Contract Services –  
resigned effective Jan. 4

**Moira Thompson** – TES Trades/  
Service/Gen Labor – Mail Services –  
resigned effective Jan. 19

**Zach Wright** – Tech I – Landscape  
Services – resigned effective Jan. 27

**Brad Johnson** – Engineer –  
Maintenance – resigned effective  
Feb. 1

**David Knowles** – Waste & Recycling  
Student Worker – Waste Reduction  
and Recycling – resigned effective  
Feb. 1

**Michael Barron** – Electrician II –  
Zone 4 – resigned effective Feb. 3

**Nick Czerkawski** – Groundskeeper  
II – Landscape Services – resigned  
Feb. 9

**Debbie Murphy** – Accountant III –  
Financial Services – retiring effective  
March 1

**Jerry Ledbetter** – Tech II  
Construction – Heavy Construction  
– retiring effective May 1

### General

**Your Journey to Health and Wellbeing Speaker Series** – The next seminar is March 14 on Nutrition. Any employee may attend any or all components of this speaker series. For more information, please visit [aub.ie/SSSmindfulness](http://aub.ie/SSSmindfulness).

**Employee Appreciation Week** is scheduled for April 24 – 28. We're looking forward to a week full of fun events and activities in honor of you.

### Congratulations!

**Rocio Evans** for receiving a Graduate Certificate in Management Information Systems.

**Travis Davis** for passing the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam.

**Joan Hicken** for earning an APPA's Certified Educational Facilities Professional (CEFP) credential.

### Congratulations to the following FM employees who received a cash award for February 2023:

- Corrina Akers
- Danny Barreto
- Paul Barringer
- Haiden Boyles
- Carolyn Brown (2)
- Terry Carter
- Cristopher Coleman
- Monica Dowdell
- Jeffrey Dyal
- Rob Engle
- Etch Etchison
- Wesley Farrow
- Marietta Flakes
- Brittany Foster
- Forrest Hall
- Rico Harvey
- Robert Joyce
- Daniel Keeble (2)
- Grant Kirby
- Scott McClure
- Nikki Preston
- Sarah Rakestraw
- Tonia Rosser
- Dalton Sconyers
- Sharon Smith (2)
- Arlin Spraggins
- Lance Stockman
- Charnita Wright
- Zach Wright
- Roberto Zugazaga

## Front page *cont.*

“Even with the extreme cold, we were able to stay below the natural gas level allowed. Spire was grateful for our quick response and help,” Martin said. “They did have customers that refused to go on curtailment. If we had done that, there would have been large financial implications on our gas bill going forward.”

After the cold front had passed, Operations continued to monitor campus throughout the break.

The Service Support team was called Dec. 27 to move furniture in Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum to support cleanup efforts following a burst pipe in the building, Sneed said.

The Service Support team spent two days in the Geosciences lab removing equipment and other items. They also disposed of all water-damaged boxes and other supplies that were on the floor. The lab flooring is currently being replaced. Once complete, Service Support will assist the department in returning equipment and other materials to the lab.

Facilities sends out a special “Thank you” to all who worked during the holiday break to ensure all buildings were ready for the campus community to return in January.



## Employees who worked during the holiday

### Maintenance

Emory Dillard  
Kyle Cordie  
Tristian Jackson  
Brook Ward  
Burke Wagoner  
William Scherer  
Jerontavious  
“Boot” Flournoy  
Paul Judy  
Travis Herrmann  
Scott Simpson  
James Peters  
Jeff Gullede  
Trent Berry  
Joey Ellis  
Kevin Jones  
Chase Kilpatrick  
Ram Seetaram  
Phillip Thompson  
Tony Wolfe  
Jason Yeomans  
Dylan Ostrander  
Cornelius Tatum  
MarQuen Mitchell  
Vance Holmes  
DeAndre Benson

Matt Geer  
Quantez Powell  
Vince Ford  
Walter Brooks  
Tony Stehman  
Dustyn Rougier  
Mark Pierce  
Paul Dickinson  
Shane Johnson  
Kenny Howard  
Perry Wood  
Robbie Parham  
Nathan Wohleb  
James Casper  
James Coleman  
LaDarius Ezell  
Cory O’Neal  
Chris Potts  
Craig Arwood  
Lee Estes  
Nate Evans  
Chad Morgan  
Andy White

### Utilities & Energy

Steven Neighbors  
Keith Nall  
Grant Kirby  
James Lyons  
Etch Etchison  
Terry Carter  
Danny Barreto  
Scott McClure  
Robert Joyce  
John Askew  
Arlin Spraggins  
Chris Coleman

### Campus Services

Rico Harvey  
Carolyn Brown  
Sharon Smith  
Kenneth Byrd  
Michael Cobb  
Marcus Moore  
Bill Dempster  
Roy Bearden  
Michael Hood  
Oscar Preston  
Cedric Ramsey  
Eric Kennedy

### Landscape Services

Ray Willett



## Employee Engagement *cont.*

### Waste Reduction and Recycling takes part in national competition

Waste Reduction and Recycling is participating in the 2023 Campus Race to Zero Waste, a friendly competition for colleges and universities to promote waste reduction and recycling in their campus communities.

The event runs through March 25. During the eight-week competition, schools report the amount of recycling and waste collected, then the total amounts are ranked into different categories like who collects

the largest number of recyclables per capita or who has the highest recycling rate.

Use the recycling bins in campus buildings and along walkways to help Auburn win.

Plastic bottles, aluminum cans, steel cans, paper and cardboard can be recycled in hundreds of different bins across campus.

*Provided by: Joan Hicken*

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