

## It's Facilities Management with the assist



Twitter users were Tweeting the praise of the Facilities team regarding the quick cleanup of Tent City prior to and during the basketball game.

For the first time in Auburn University's history, the men's basketball team is ranked number 1 in the nation. Another first came, Friday, Jan. 21, when a "Tent City," sprang up the night before the Saturday, Jan. 22, Auburn vs. Kentucky game as fans camped out for a spot in the Auburn Arena student section.

Prior to camping out, students purchased tents, sleeping bags, chairs and blankets to claim their spot in line as they waited for the arena's doors to open. After seeing the passion behind the fans lining up hours before for the Georgia game the previous week, Assistant Vice President of Facilities Operations Dan Whatley said that he

knew the Facilities team needed to work on a plan alongside Athletics to support the students and campus.

The Facilities team was alerted of the gathering that increased from a few students to more than 1,600 camping prior to the Kentucky game. The Maintenance team coordinated the delivery of portlets, while the Waste and Recycling team delivered trash cans and recycling bins to Tent City.

On Friday, 10 portlets were dropped off, as well as 24 trash cans and six recycling bins. On Saturday, the team dropped off an additional six trash bins.

When the students were able to enter

the arena, a handful of sleeping bags, tents and chairs were left behind. Thanks to the incredible Facilities team, the aftermath of Tent City was picked up, shoveled and loaded away, restoring the area to its previous condition.

According to Whatley, individuals from Landscape Services, Campus Services and Maintenance participated in the cleanup both Saturday and Sunday. Further, Whatley explained that there was an original plan for a small crew to cleanup on Saturday, but the team quickly realized that they would need more help.

"I'm extremely thankful that we have such a dedicated staff that is willing to go the extra mile to make the campus experience fantastic for our community," Whatley said.

Kristy Cannon, assistant director of Campus Services participated in the cleanup efforts over the weekend.

"I saw this as an opportunity to help our partners in Athletics provide an amazing gameday experience, while at the same time supporting the AUFM vision of a clean and safe campus," Cannon said. "It is important to our team in Campus Services to ensure Auburn students are able to enjoy their time here, experience all Auburn has to offer, and still be able to take pride in a long tradition of a well maintained campus."

Additionally, Justin Sutton, director of Landscape Services, said the unclaimed sleeping bags and blankets from the event were dropped off

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# Employee Communications *from the Office of Employee Engagement*

## **Congratulations**

**Congratulations to the following employees** who completed forklift training in December 2021:

- Anthony Green
- Corey Johnson
- Anthony Lewis
- Matthew Peterson
- Oscar Preston
- Jacob Riehl

The **Waste Reduction and Recycling Department (WRRD)** coordinated the 2021 Gameday Recycling Program. Staff placed more than 150 recycling bins inside and outside Jordan-Hare Stadium and 400 additional recycling bins on campus for fans to recycle their plastic bottles and aluminum cans for each home game. WRRD collected 739,268 pounds of material totaling 55,148 pounds of recycling and 684,120 pounds of landfill waste.

**Congratulations to Phillip Thompson** on his promotion to a Tech II, Construction.

**Congratulations to Chris Potts** for being named the Maintenance Supervisor of the Quarter.

**Congratulations to Anthony Walker** for being named the Employee of the Quarter.

**Bob Hix recently joined the Client Relations team** as University Engineer. Bob previously served in the position of Assistant Director of Design Services.

**Holiday Luncheon Survey results** – average score was 8 out of 10.

### **Liked:**

Variety of food  
Quality of food  
The venue  
Socializing with peers

### **Suggestions:**

More time allotted to eat  
All of FM employees together at one time  
Use the same venue again  
More door prizes

## **2021 Campus Recycling results** -

Auburn University recycled 599 tons (1,198,000 pounds) of cardboard, paper and containers (plastic bottles, aluminum cans and steel cans) in 2021.

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

- Cory Akers
- Bruce Arnold

- Coy Bass
- John Berry
- Walter Brooks
- Carolyn Brown
- Terry Carter
- Charlie Chappell
- Chris Channell
- Kyle Cordie
- Jeff Dyal
- Nate Evans
- Britt Foster
- Broderick Gibson
- DeAndre Gilmore
- Forrest Hall
- Amie Hart
- Alex Hedgepath
- Joel Hunter
- John Ingersoll
- Miller Jensen
- Kevin Jones
- Daniel Keeble
- Chase Kilpatrick
- Christy Kimbrough
- Neil Lawson
- Anne Leader
- Austin Lovett
- Heath Marshall
- Wes Miller
- Evan Milton
- John Milton
- Eric Moon
- Hank Moreman
- Chad Morgan
- David Morgan
- Chris Pruitt
- Michael Sanford
- Athen Scarioni
- Dalton Sconyers
- Matt Skinner
- Anthony Smith
- Arlin Spraggins
- Lance Stockman
- Chris Sullivan
- John Vollar
- Zach Vollar
- Brook Ward
- Tyler Winchester
- Tony Wolfe
- Edwin Wood
- Zach Wright
- Robert Zugazaga

## **New Employees/Welcome**

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

**Brandon Gann** – Admin Support Asst II – Contract Services – Jan 10.

**Wes Henderson** – TES Inventory Control Clerk – Materials Management – Dec. 13.

**Windy Johnson** – Admin Support Asst II – Work Management – Jan. 3.

**Brian Martin** – Tech I, Service Support –

Service Support – Nov. 22.

**Tony Tucker** – Tech I, Construction – Heavy Construction – Jan. 3.

## **Retirements/Resignations**

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

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

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

**Eric Newman** – PM Shop – resigned Jan. 11.

## **Facilities Training**

Recommended Training Courses

LinkedIn Learning:

**“How to be an Inclusive Leader,”** 11 minutes (audio mini-course).

**“Skills for Inclusive Conversations,”** 53 minutes.

**“A Manager’s Guide to Inclusive Teams,”** 46 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:Cynthia.Baccus@auburn.edu).**



# Facilities Employee Highlight: Travis Herrmann



Maintenance Assistant Supervisor Travis Herrmann didn't take the most normal path to his position in Facilities. He graduated from Auburn in 2013 with a degree in print journalism, ready to take his skills from the classroom to the newsroom.

It wasn't till 2015 that he would find himself working in the sign shop and alongside other maintenance crews, eventually helping coordinate their projects and manage their workload each day.

As an assistant supervisor for Zone 1, it's his job to watch over work for various buildings on campus, including the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and Ralph Brown Draughon Library.

***Tell me a little bit about how you made it to Facilities after starting***

***in print journalism.***

After working in print journalism for a few years I recognized that the long-term goals I held were not met in the industry. With a young family at the time, I was seeking benefits beyond my weekly pay. I began applying for jobs at Auburn University as a route to those goals in 2012. I received my first interview in 2015.

***What made you want to join maintenance?***

I wanted to join maintenance because it presented a wide variety of disciplines with a path for professional growth. Maintenance is also appealing because it is one of the few work fields which will not be disrupted by automation in the coming decades.

***What's your favorite thing about working at Auburn?***

My favorite thing about working at Auburn is seeing the results of our work on a daily basis.

***What's been your biggest challenge working in Facilities?***

The biggest challenge in working at Facilities has been learning all of the different trades as a supervisor. We all specialize, but to serve our employees effectively we need to speak the same technical language and share the same vision.

***What do you like to do for fun outside of work?***

Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my children. I also enjoy cooking, hiking around the numerous parks in the Auburn area and attending occasional concerts.



# Facilities celebrates retirees



*Rick Traylor recently retired after 25 years with Auburn University and Facilities Management.*



*Dee Sneed and Kenny Byrd congratulate Nora Macon for 25 years of service at her December retirement reception.*



*Dan King congratulates Judy Hazelrigs who recently retired after more than 13 years of service with Facilities.*

## Assist continued

the following Tuesday afternoon to the Auburn Church of the Highlands Dream Center. There were about 60 blankets, 35 sleeping bags and three coats donated.

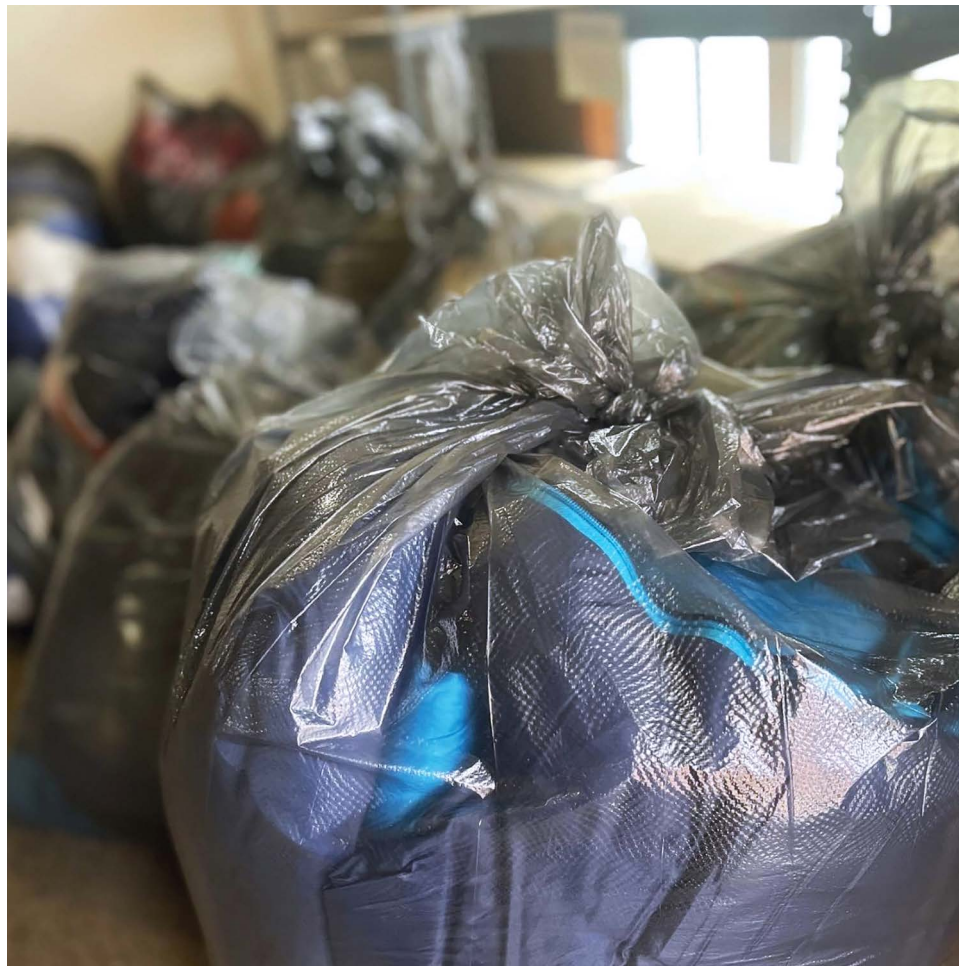
The Highlands Dream Center delivered the items to the Columbus, GA, Highlands campus where the items will be distributed through the Valley Rescue Mission.

The hard work from the entire Facilities team had an enormously positive impact on the students camping out and for all those attending the game.

“We are taking what we learned from this game to adjust plans for future games and maximize opportunities for a positive fan experience while they are on campus,” Whatley said.

Thank you to all Facilities employees who helped make Tent City a positive experience and provide an organized setup, as well as the 13 employees who participated in the cleanup efforts over the weekend of the event.

*By Natalie Anderson*



*Landscape Services gathered more than 60 sleeping bags and 35 blankets during cleanup of Tent City, which popped up when students gathered to secure their seat in the Auburn Arena student section for the Auburn versus Kentucky game.*

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