CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Don’t forget . . .

The annual Facilities Operations Christmas Luncheon will be held at 11:30 am in the Dining Hall on December 6, 2012. The Choir will sing, there will be door prizes, and a traditional holiday meal served. The meal will be $7.25 each. In order to give Dining Services an accurate head count, please pay Vickie DeBari, Jeannie Lasley, or Erick Gardner by noon on Monday, December 3, 2012.

Welcome New Facilities Operations Employees

Mae Byers  
Facility Services

Ivan Lyall  
Computer Technician

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Hal Shelton—Grounds—22  
John Pearce—Facility Svcs—20  
Don Williamson—Bldg & Trades—20  
Helen Burns—Facility Svcs—3  
Dean Perdue—Bldg & Trades—12  
Diana Logan—Facility Svcs—2  
Vernell Rankin—Facility Svcs—9  
Guy McGayhey—Bldg & Trades—9

Patricia Dority—Facility Svcs—9  
Jim Mohr—Utilities—7  
Genaro Perez—Facility Svcs—6  
John Tinnin—Facility Svcs—6  
Mark Cable—Bldg & Trades—5  
Robin Smith—Facility Svcs—2  
Gary Denny—Utilities—1
KUDOS FOR A JOB WELL DONE

During a routine toilet flush valve repair, a solder joint on the piping popped loose and stream of water from a 1¼” pipe at full pressure shot across the restroom, out the restroom door, and down the hallways on the 4th floor of the building.

Mark Cable would like to thank the following folks for the quick response that allowed us to escape with only a couple of wet ceiling tiles and a wet smoke detector on the floor below.

Facility Services – Robert Attaway, Nate Gant, Michael Hall, Ron Burkes, Lonnie Watford, Clifton Quick, Ricky Gilmore, and John Pearce
Plumbing Shop – Drew Bushnoe and Bob Johnson
Electric Shop – Andrew Gwyn, Don Autry, and Jim Mohr
HVAC Shop – Michael Boulton
Zone Maintenance – Guy McGayhey
Utilities Manager – Tom White

Recently Jeannie and Debbie went to the surplus warehouse to turn in some toner cartridges that Facilities Operations no longer use. While there they noticed nine toner cartridges that would fit our mailroom printers. Jeannie and Debbie brought back five color cartridges and four black cartridges for the 5500 printers. These cartridges would have cost $2,800 if purchased from Staples.

Thank you Jeannie and Debbie for your resourcefulness. Great job!!

Hoyte Phifer

It’s always hard being the new employee—learning the job, learning the expectations from the boss, organizing office space, finding where things are, getting to know your co-workers, etc. It’s a difficult time in anyone’s life. I want to thank everyone in Facilities Operations for making this transition as smooth as possible. But, I particularly want to thank Dan Durham, Jeannie Lasley, Cynthia Louis, and Debbie Reynolds for their continued patience with my persistent questions, mistakes, and everything in between. You’ve all been lifesavers and your eagerness to help is very much appreciated.

Vickie DeBari

Dear James,

I want to write to you about the excellent job Melanie is doing. She goes about her work every day with proficiency and precision.

Melanie is so focused on her job duties. I’ve been in the Moore Humanities building since it opened — and can honestly say Melanie has cleaned areas that were not cleaned since the move in. This is not to say the other housekeepers before her didn’t do a good job — what I am saying is “no area/space is untouched when Melanie is going about cleaning”. Her attention to detail is astounding. One day she went to each office door in the department and scrubbed them to remove all the fingerprints, scotch tape, and scuff marks. I’ve seen her many, many times wiping off the dust from the tops of all the class cases hanging on the walls throughout the floor. These are just two examples of her eye for detail.

Melanie is always very polite and professional, and we very much appreciate her kind and gentle nature. I would definitely say without hesitation that she is an asset to your department and to UNCG.

All my best,

Marsha Leonhart

The PAC person - - David Thornberry - - was VERY responsive TWICE and the plumber - - Raymond Montgomery - - came immediately and not only fixed the problem but also showed David what to do the next time this happens.

THAT’s customer service!

Megan Evans
UNCG Student Health Services

Have a letter of recognition you’d like to share or know of anyone deserving of kudos?
Send an email to Vickie DeBari at vjdebari@uncg.edu
Dan Moore attended a seminar with one of our lighting suppliers. He took the initiative to discuss with one of the salesmen the difficulty in changing bulbs in areas where a lift is required. The result of this conversation is that we are now replacing compact fluorescent bulbs with LED lights. The initial cost of the bulbs is more but they will last eight to 10 times longer. Not only are the LED lights energy saving in terms of electricity; the manpower savings will be much more significant. It takes three men to move a lift to the building and set it up for one person to replace the bulbs in high areas. Teddy Hyatt installed the first LED lights in Cone Art. All areas with high ceilings requiring a lift are being evaluated by the zone mechanics for LED replacements. Thanks Dan and Teddy for your diligence.

Chris Aaroe has been busy working on the Hilltop Lodge roof. The deteriorated standing seam metal panels were replaced with a new thermoplastic single-ply roof membrane. The work also included replacing damaged rafters and roof sheathing, as well as removing and replacing some of the composite siding panels and wood trim.

The new City of Greensboro bus stop on Spring Garden Street near the School of Education is now complete. But when the bus stop went up, four trees came down. Because we are affiliated with Tree Campus USA, our Grounds Department made sure that every tree removed was replaced. Four Willow Oaks with 1200 pound root balls were planted. In addition to the oak trees, the area is the new home to 64 Nandina shrubs and 40 Cottoneasters. To soften the appearance, the Cottoneasters will cascade over the retaining wall as they grow. Not only did our talented grounds crew plant all these plants, they tilled the soil, mulched the beds, repaired the lawn area, cleaned the concrete and painted new white lines. Oh, and did I mention they did all this in a mere 48 hours?

A big round of thanks goes to the following grounds employees for their hard work on this project: Chris Fay, Chris Cardwell, Hal Shelton, James Munro, Kevin Siler, Jeff Hawkins, Hre Rahlan, Bai Rmah, Herman Crawford, and Andres Hernandez.
Congratulations to B.E.S.T. for the Month of November

Paul Bigelow—First Shift

Robert Attaway—Second Shift

WINTER WEATHER PLAN UPDATE

It’s getting to be that time of year again . . .

Winter weather is creeping upon us quickly. Please take a moment to review the updated Winter Weather Plan on the Facilities Operations website. You will find information on preparation for and duties during this time. You will also find safety tips and a checklist. The winter weather plan is located at: http://facoperations.uncg.edu/. The link to the new weather plan is on the right hand side under News and Information.

All Facilities Operations employees are designated as Essential Employees by University policy and are expected to report to work per regular work schedule during adverse weather.
October Safety Update

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Tool Trivia

Did you know . . .

The first double-acting tumbler lock was invented by Robert Barron in 1778.

The band saw was invented by William Newberry in 1807.

The first lawn mower was invented by Edwin Budding in 1827.

The first tape measure with a click-spring function was invented by Wm Fellows in 1860.

The yarn mop with a clamping system to wring out water was invented by Thomas Steward in 1893.

The first modern air conditioning system was invented by Willis Carrier in 1902.

The square-headed screwdriver and screw was invented by Peter Robertson in 1908.

Masking tape was invented by Richard Drew in 1925.

The toilet brush was invented by William Schnopp in 1932.

The paint roller was invented by Norman Breakey in 1940.
No one can do everything, but everyone can do something...

The spirit of the Winter Holidays is of family, love, hope, peace, thanks, and joy. Yet, December is a stressful month for many of us. We rush to decorate, shop, cook, clean, and entertain. Budgets are tight. We fight crowds shopping for the perfect gift that fits that tight budget. We’re frustrated by traffic snarls. Not exactly the makings for a merry and bright mood!

It’s easy to say, “I have no time!”, or “I’m barely making ends meet myself!” and not do anything to give back to society, but in fact, there is always a way. Maybe you can’t spend money, but you could tell someone they look nice. Maybe you don’t have time, but you could pick up an extra sandwich at the deli to give to someone who can’t afford it.

A random act of kindness is something that literally everyone can do. It’s an act of selfless giving that you do “just because”. It’s something that brings a smile to someone’s face and at the same time reminds them that there are good people in the world.

Just ensure that your kind acts result in bringing an added measure of holiday joy and happiness to someone and does not add any anxiety or embarrassment to them.

A few suggestions:

Cook or buy a holiday meal for a family or person who is struggling financially.

Send thank you notes to people who have made a difference in your life.

Let someone cut in front of you in the grocery store check out.

Offer kind words to the cashier during a busy shopping day.

Hold the door open for someone who has their hands full.

Put a quarter in a meter that’s about to expire.

Give up your seat on a crowded bus or train.

Thank your Police or Fire Department.

Offer to babysit for a single parent.

Return a shopping cart.

Leave a generous tip.

Give someone a hug.

Encourage someone.

You might be amazed by how much you are appreciated. Best of all, you will find that by giving, you receive the greatest gift of all. Random act of kindness could be the beginnings of a very merry and bright mood!

Happy Holidays to everyone!