**GREEN TIP:**
Set your computer and monitors to sleep and power down when not in use. Doing so can save nearly half a ton of carbon dioxide and more than $60 a year in energy costs! For help activating your computer’s power management settings, contact Gordie Bennett at 974-7780.

**IN THE FACE OF TOUGH TIMES, A MOMENT OF CELEBRATION**

With budget woes and a hiring freeze hanging heavy over the university, Facilities Services staff were able to set aside their worries and enjoy some respite and refreshment at the annual Employee Appreciation Breakfast.

Separate gatherings for first and second shift yielded excellent turnouts of staff who congregated in the Ray Mears Room on Wednesday, December 16th for coffee, pastries, and a chance to mingle and catch up with colleagues including Denise Barlow and Jeff Maples, Vice Chancellor and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor, respectively, for Finance and Administration. Remarks from Facilities Services Executive Director Mike Sherrell and Interim Chancellor Jan Simek closed out the festivities.

“This is a tough time, there’s no doubt about it,” said Simek. “But we’re a family here at UT, and we will get through this.”

**ONE DAY WITH THE UNIVERSITY’S UNSUNG HEROES**

638,736,000 pounds of steam; 29,095 tons of coal; 759,667 therms of natural gas. They are all impressive numbers, but can most people comprehend their implications? Darryl Ford can; he has to, as the Superintendent (for the past 20 years!) of UT Knoxville’s sole source of heating and cooling, the Steam Plant.

Operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the Steam Plant runs primarily on coal—roughly 160 tons of it every day. Coal fires heat three of the plant’s four boilers to temperatures of up to 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit, producing high pressure steam that travels to every building on campus through an intricate underground piping system with a length totaling nearly 11 miles.

When temperatures drop into the twenties and teens, as they have this week, all three coal-fired boilers go on line, providing hot air and water to residents and employees. The plant’s fourth boiler runs on natural gas, and a fifth boiler with the capability of burning either natural gas or fuel oil is currently being installed.

Because the university cannot operate without the Plant’s services, holidays do not exist for its 26 staff members, who work around the clock.

First shift employees share coffee and conversation.
STEAM PLANT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Logan—1/1
Mike Sherrell—1/1
Brian Day—1/2
Roy Elder—1/2
Bill Pace—1/3
Veronica Huff—1/4
Diane Jones—1/4
David Spering—1/4
Edward Hibbert—1/5
Jacob Njeru—1/5
Brook Ellis—1/6
Wanda Smith—1/7
Randy Gentry—1/8
Dewayne Doane—1/10
Fred Wolfenbarger—1/10
Sam Miller—1/11
James Blevins—1/12
Roy Britt—1/12
Eursal Payne—1/12
Leo Pedigo—1/12
William Fox—1/13
Robert Clark—1/14
Carrie Dixson—1/14
David Bryan—1/15
Stephen Follum—1/15
Sanders Wood—1/16
Thomas Brimer—1/18
Patrick Pardoe—1/18
Scotty Richards—1/18
Matthew Snow—1/19
Sammy Wolf—1/19
Flora Baker—1/20
Ronald Sands—1/21
Amanda Hinds—1/22
Michael McCann—1/22
Jeromey White—1/22
Billy King—1/24
Vickey Miller—1/25
Sherry Lane—1/27
Charles Burch—1/29
Wayne Samples—1/29
James Childress—1/30

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Fred Wolfenbarger—1/10
Sam Miller—1/11
James Blevins—1/12
Roy Britt—1/12
Eursal Payne—1/12
Leo Pedigo—1/12
William Fox—1/13
Robert Clark—1/14
Carrie Dixson—1/14
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Sherry Lane—1/27
Charles Burch—1/29
Wayne Samples—1/29
James Childress—1/30

COLD WEATHER GOT YOU DOWN? CAUGHT A CASE OF CABIN FEVER? NEED A HOLIDAY?

Then take a tropical vacation without leaving Knoxville! Join the Smoky Mountain Parrotthead Club and party with a purpose! Come for good music and good times, then stick around to work with local charities! For more information check out Ray’s ESG on the 3rd Friday of every month between 6 and 10 p.m. or contact Jon Young.

“People don’t know we’re here until we’re not here.”
- Darryl Ford,
Steam Plant
Superintendent

THE FACILITATOR
UNIVERSITY LOSES A LOYAL EMPLOYEE

Buck Nelson passed away at his home on Sunday, November 16th at the age of 85. His wife of 63 years, homemaker Dorothy Nelson, passed away in a nursing home less than 24 hours later. The Nelsons were survived by son and daughter-in-law Sam and Pauline Nelson, grandson and granddaughter-in-law Craig and Michelle Nelson, and granddaughter Sydney Brooke Nelson.

Buck was hired to Facilities Services in 1947, and held a number of positions in the department throughout his tenure. His titles included Carpentry Foreman, Assistant Structures Superintendent, Superintendent of Special Projects, and Assistant Director. After retiring on December 30th, 1988 with 41 years of service, Nelson returned to the department in January 1989 on a part-time basis, continuing to work until the Friday before his death. Nelson took pride in his length of service to the university, and often claimed to have worked longer than anyone else at UT.

STEVE COSTNER “ARRESTED” FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

The setup was part of the Muscular Dystrophy Association’s annual “jailbird” fundraiser, in which volunteers are “arrested” and must post bail, a.k.a. the donations they’ve collected from their friends and colleagues. Fortunately, Steve’s arresting officer did not take him to jail, but to The Butcher Shop restaurant in World’s Fair Park, where Steve handed over his bail money and was promptly fed a tasty lunch!

Despite a failing economy and the distinct absence of annual pay raises, Facilities Services employees donated $308 to the MDA. That is roughly $100 more than is typically collected, demonstrating that circumstances are never too difficult to help a worthy cause!

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Retiring
Wanda Boyd—Service Aide, Assembly Center & Arena
Johnny Branum—Supervisor, Preventive Maintenance
John Helton—Electrician, Electrical Services
David Johnson—Craft Aide, Steam Plant
James Reagan—Senior Carpenter, Carpentry Services

Transfers/Promotions
Chris Blair—Locksmith to Senior Craft Specialist
Robert Frick—Maintenance Specialist to Line Installer/Mechanic

New Faces
Samuel Brown—Steam Plant
Michael Duncan—Carpentry Services
Reinhard Herding—Carpentry Services
Brittany Hurst—Building Services
James Jones—Building Services
Lewis Love—Preventive Maintenance
Jason Nichols—Building Services
David Parris—Preventive Maintenance (Arena)
Joyce Robinson—Building Services

VACANCIES

Approved and Being Advertised
Custodial Foreman—P/M (Arena)
Service Aide II (3) - P/M (Arena)

Waiting To Be Advertised
Executive Housekeeper—Building Services
Service Aide II—Assembly Center & Arena
Maintenance Specialist—Preventive Maintenance (A)
Service Aide II (3) - P/M (Arena)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

“One kind word can warm three winter months.”

- Japanese Proverb
YOUR BI-MONTHLY “FIX” OF FACILITIES NEWS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Facilities Services Department
2233 Volunteer Boulevard
Knoxville, TN 37996-3010

With suggestions, corrections and comments, contact:
Ali Virtanen, Public Relations Coordinator
Facilities Services room 106
Office: (865) 974-2510
Mobile: (865) 755-2263
Email: avirtanen@utk.edu

THE FACILITATOR

“COATS FOR THE COLD” WARM BODIES AND HEARTS

In early November room 106 began to fill up with bulging garbage bags, at times making the doorway impassable. Fortunately the bags were not full of smelly garbage, but rather full of warm, soft coats. By November 14th the room was overflowing and employees in the Facilities Services Department had collected 47 coats for families in need.

The collection was part of the annual Coats For The Cold campaign, coordinated on campus by the College of Social Work. 285 coats in all were donated from UT Knoxville and brought to Prestige Cleaners for complimentary cleaning and repair before delivery to Knox Area Rescue Ministries and the people who needed them most.

Many thanks to all who participated!

UPCOMING EVENTS: JANUARY

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<td>EPA Training, 3-5</td>
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<td>EPA Training, 9-5 University Center</td>
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<td>HOLIDAY, MLK Birthday, Observed</td>
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<td>Ray &amp; Kim Mears Vacation, 10-9</td>
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