

# THE FACILITATOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE • FACILITIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Winter 2021

 FACILITIES SERVICES

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## Join Us on Social Media



[facebook.com/UTFacilitiesServices](https://facebook.com/UTFacilitiesServices)



[twitter.com/utkfacserv](https://twitter.com/utkfacserv)



[instagram.com/utfacilities](https://instagram.com/utfacilities)



[tiny.utk.edu/FSYouTube](https://tiny.utk.edu/FSYouTube)

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Visit the UT Facilities Services  
Website at **fs.utk.edu**

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

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FACILITIES SERVICES

# Faces of Facilities Services

Facilities Services is a large department with a lot of diverse backgrounds, skillsets and interests. Spread out across four shifts, it's not easy to get to know everyone outside of your own unit and/or sub-unit. We want to change that one friendly face at a time. In each issue of The Facilitator, we will feature a Facilities Services employee to help you get to know a bit more about them. Namely, their history in the department and how they like to spend time outside of work. In a lot of ways, Facilities Services employees are the very heartbeat of UT Knoxville, and this feature helps our community get to know the stories behind the staff.

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## Meet Art Tezak



### 1. Where did you get your start in Facilities Services?

My first job at UT was as a floater. I moved around to a lot of different buildings. I figured they were trying to see if I knew my job and if, in fact, I would do my job.

### 2. What's your favorite thing about the work you do now?

My favorite thing about the work I do now is that it let's me still be connected to a lot of great people who work here.

### 3. If you could go to lunch with one person from Facilities Services who would it be?

Grab lunch? Not interested. I'm a business lunch kinda guy so I would trade stories with Terry Ledford but he'd have to pick up the tab. I assume he makes more money than I do.

### 4. Who is your oldest friend at Facilities Services?

Sandra Britt although she isn't really that old is my oldest friend in Facilities Services. I met her in 94 and 95 when I worked load in and load out for the shows at the arena. She always treats people respectfully. I recognize and appreciate that in people.

### 5. If you could magically do one thing what would you do?

If I could magically do one thing I would get people to keep quiet and listen. You already know how you see the world. Perhaps someone else could let them see things differently.

### 6. Who is the funniest person you have ever met in Facilities Services?

Jerry Carr had the keenest sense of humor. He could tear you down verbally but the way he did it made you feel good. He was a great guy.

### 7. What one meal could you eat and never get tired of?

Maybe I'm part griz because i think i could eat salmon every day.

### 8. If you ever become famous what will it be for?

If I ever became famous it would be for minding my own business even if it occasionally overlapped someone else's business.

### 9. What hobbies/interests would you like to share with our department?

I write. Arthur Unknown is my pen name. That is partially my way of trying to usurp credit for all the really great stuff signed Author Unknown. Folks ask: "What about all the bad stuff that is signed that way?" I reply "That? That is that other guy." I write sometimes about things that trouble me and it helps them pass. I write about the good things I find in life. There is a collection of little snippets I call artphrases.

# EXCEPTIONAL TEAMS



While the way we honor Exceptional Teams and Employees of the Month may look different than it did pre-pandemic, it's no less important! We believe there is tremendous value in recognizing our team members who show what it means to give your all for Tennessee each day. Congratulations to those honored in the past few months:

## **SEPTEMBER EXCEPTIONAL TEAM - STATUE INSTALLATION TEAM**

This team was honored for their efficiency and professionalism during the installation of the “Tennessee First” statues in front of G21 at Neyland Stadium prior to the start of football season. These statues honor barrier-breaking African American football players who accomplished great things on the field during their time at UT. This team assisted with their installation and signage, and assisted in carrying out the “reveal” event held to honor those who are featured.

## **OCTOBER EXCEPTIONAL TEAM - SCUP PLANNING TEAM**

When it was announced that the Society of College and University Planners (SCUP) would host their annual conference in Knoxville, the Design Services team went to work to ensure a success and safe event for all. Their hard work and dedication made this event memorable for all attendees, and their efforts to showcase our campus to others in their field was highly regarded by all. Whether stuffing goody bags until late in the evening or greeting guests, this team went above and beyond to show others what it means to be a Volunteer. Great work, team!

## **NOVEMBER EXCEPTIONAL TEAM - ELECTRICAL OUTAGE RESPONSE TEAM**

This team was honored for their quick responses to both planned and unplanned outages. Recently, staff from Utilities Services and Zone Maintenance responded to outages at Neyland Stadium and Stokely Management Center that could've had a large scale impact on game day and/or all of campus if not handled promptly. Like clockwork, this team jumped into action to make sure systems were repaired and reset as quickly as possible.



# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



## SEPTEMBER - EVGHENIA SEVASTIANOVA

Evghenia was honored as Employee of the Month on the 8th anniversary of her employment with us in Facilities Services! She is a dedicated, hard worker who receives many compliments from those who work alongside her. She is certainly deserving of this honor, and we are blessed to have her on our team.

## OCTOBER - ED OLIVERI

Ed Oliveri has served for more than five years in Facilities Services, and he always goes above and beyond to support his team. Ed's problem solving skills and wealth of knowledge make him an asset to Utilities Services, and we're all honored to know him.

## NOVEMBER - NEAL VERCLER

Neal joined the Facilities Services team in 2017, and has served as an Arborist Tech since then. Neal is instrumental in maintaining the campus's Tree Campus USA status and assists in planning for events like our annual Arbor Day celebration. Neal is dependable and an asset to the Operations unit. No one deserves this designation more than he does.

# SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

**Matthew Layne** @Mattgov... · 12/2/21 ...  
 Congratulations to @utkfacserv on the award! Over the years they have completed so many amazing projects!

**Tennessee Turfgrass** · 12/2/21

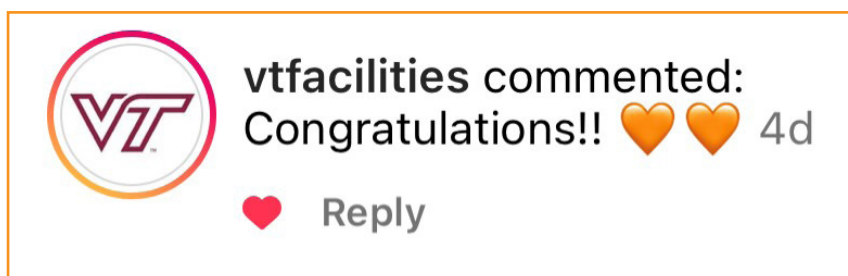
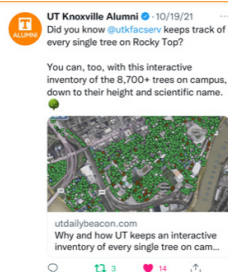
Please join us in congratulating @UTKnoxville for being selected as the recipient of the Environmental Stewardship Award. We hope that you can join us at #TTACon2022 sign up at ttaonline.org #TNTurf



**utkarmyrotc** mentioned you in a comment: @utfacilities we appreciate all of your work and help to make our facility and ROTC Space clean, welcoming, and maintained! 3d



♥ Reply





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## SHOUT OUT TO ANGELA NICKERSON, BUILDING SERVICES

I wanted to pass along my sincere thanks to Angela Nickerson, Mary, and Jessica for an absolute awesome job on stripping and waxing the areas in our office. The floors were in such terrible shape and I was blown away by how great the floors looked when I came in this morning.

It is so much appreciated and I hope you can pass this on to the appropriate people.

Angie Boles  
Executive Assistant  
Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society



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## CONGRATULATIONS, BILLY FLOYD AND JASON HUGHETT

Congratulations to Jason Hughett and Billy Floyd for passing their EPA 608 exams! The EPA Section 608 test is a closed book test intended to measure a technician's basic knowledge of refrigerant containment laws set by the Clean Air Act. It covers modern service, installation, and disposal practices for refrigerant bearing appliances and the proper use and maintenance of refrigerant related tools. This is no simple task, and yet, these team members passed with flying colors. We're proud of you both!

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## SHOUT OUT TO WES HINSHAW, CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

I wanted to take a moment to express our appreciation for your quick response to our Painting Project in Perkins 219. Wesley was wonderful and kept us informed of the progress and projected completion date. The painters were wonderful as well. WE thank you for having a great team and for completing this job in short notice and with prompt completion. The office looks wonderful.

Thank you again!

Laura Yoder  
Associate Director  
Tickle College of Engineering



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## SHOUT OUT TO GREG BURRESS, ZONE MAINTENANCE

Thank you for following up a couple weeks ago on the problem with the lack of hot water at the Kappa Alpha fraternity house. I appreciate you contacting Greg on November 1 and helping to move the repair forward following the October 31 communication breakdown with One Call.

Once Greg became involved, he communicated with me throughout the process. As you know, Industrial Boiler and Mechanical was the next step, and it was going to be a while before their tech could get to the house on November 1. While waiting on the tech, Greg solved the problem. The students were ecstatic to finally have hot water; he also saved the house corporation much needed dollars as well. He even returned to the house the morning of November 2 to make sure the hot water heater was still working. This is typical of Greg.

Over the years Greg has been involved with numerous maintenance issues at our house. Beginning with the spring 2021, the frequency increased as we were readying the house for the fall semester sublessee. And, he has continued this much appreciated service since the Phi Kappa Tau moved in. We like working with Greg; he is always dependable and follows through as promised. He makes a consistent effort to deliver timely service, and always puts forth the extra effort to solve whatever problem he encounters. I particularly appreciate that Greg is accessible and is always willing to answer any questions that arise and to offer options.

Because of people like Greg, I am an avid supporter of UT Facilities Services. I always insist that our house corporation board use FS and that we go outside only when the issue or project is not in line with your scope of work.

I believe it is important to let you and others know about good performance and not just when there is a problem. Greg has been and continues to be a great asset and partner with us, as I am sure he is with many other campus sorority and fraternity residences. Please share these comments about Greg and the quality service that he provides with the appropriate individuals within the reporting chain.

Thank you for your ongoing help and support.

Jim Lawson, President of the Twentieth Street House Corporation  
Kappa Alpha Order

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## SHOUT OUT TO GREG PORTER, ZONE MAINTENANCE



### DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR UNIVERSITY (AETC)

9 Nov 21

MEMORANDUM FOR ZONE MAINTENANCE UNIT, UTK  
ATTENTION: MR. DEREK BAILEY

FROM: AFROTC Det 800/CC

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation for Mr. Greg Porter

1. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the exemplary work our facilities manager at James D. Hoskins Library has done in assisting us with completing our mission. We are in the business of growing future leaders for the United States Air and Space Force and that would not be possible without adequate facilities for our classes, leadership laboratories, and office spaces. Greg is a direct contributor to ensuring these facilities are available to us and in good working order. He is prompt, kind, and professional when dealing with Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) cadre and cadets alike.

2. Greg ensures the aged but historic Hoskins Library retains its appeal and contributes to the welcoming academic environment University of Tennessee campus strives for. He embodies the facilities services values of support, empowerment, and tradition and answers any support requests made by our staff. A few examples of the outstanding work he's done include hanging white boards, distributing new office furniture, facilitating office movements, and assisting water fountain installation. In one instance, Greg facilitated repairs & adjustments to the library's HVAC system to ensure classrooms were usable; he enabled AFROTC cadre to return to the classroom within the same week the HVAC system failed. Additionally, this individual personally located and returned "lost" property further displaying his concern and support for Hoskins Library denizens.

3. The Hoskins Library facility is in most cases our newest applicant's first exposure to AFROTC. Greg directly assists us with convincing new applicants to come to University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK) and participate in our program simply due to the nature of his job. High School students regularly visit our program and the tours and briefings we provide offer them a glimpse into what their lives would be like should they attend UTK. Our cadets regularly use these facilities to study, perform drill, and enjoy fellowship. Greg takes ownership of his facility and is a regular face here that our cadets know and trust. UTK, specifically Hoskins Library will be a fond memory for our cadets as they graduate, commission, and move on to defend our nation and her values. I say again, Greg directly contributes to the success of our mission.

4. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 865-974-8867, or by email at [westep1@utk.edu](mailto:westep1@utk.edu).

*William A. Estep*

WILLIAM A. ESTEP, Lt Col, USAF  
Commander



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## FORREST ANDERSON CLUB CAR DEDICATION

On a rainy Monday morning, we had the distinct honor of joining together with colleagues on the Ag Campus to dedicate this Club Car in memory of Forrest Anderson. Forrest was a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Navy and longtime Facilities Services Zone Maintenance team member. He passed suddenly in July, and his team and those he served on campus have missed him daily. Forrest was incredibly helpful, dedicated to his job, and a connoisseur of all things sweet. We're told the man had an incredible ability to track down donuts at any meeting where they were present. The dedication was a beautiful tribute by his team, and his legacy as a VFL will surely live on through those who knew him well.



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## CONGRATULATIONS CCP CLASS OF 2021

Congratulations are in order for the Service Aides who are now certified Custodial Technicians as graduates of the 2021 CCP training class! These technicians work long hours and still made time to go the extra mile to complete their courses. They are all well versed in proper techniques for machine usage, how to properly handle various cleaning agents, and so much more. Many have no idea just how skilled our various teams truly are, but you'd be hard pressed to find anyone as dedicated and knowledgeable as our Facilities Services staff. Well done, team!



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## FS FUNDAMENTALS: WINTERIZE YOUR HOME



Shout out to our Plumbing Services team members for sharing their wealth of knowledge during this semester's Facilities Services Fundamentals workshop. They provided great insight for how to winterize your home, especially in spaces that remain vacant for much of the season. We had 22 registered participants, and several asked great questions. Be on the look out for an announcement regarding our next DIY workshop! This is yet another way we seek to go above and beyond in our service to our campus and community.

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## EMORY WHITE FEATURED IN STAFF ART EXHIBITION

Emory White, Building Services, recently featured two pieces of personal artwork in the Ewing Gallery of Art + Architecture's Staff Exhibition that ran November 15 - December 8. Emory also serves in the Art + Architecture building as a Service Aide so the ability to display the artwork in a place they find inspiration was truly special. We are so proud of them, and we can't wait to see their next showcase!

One of the best things about our team is that there are so many wonderful, unique, creative, and talented people who work together to create and support a positive learning environment for all. We learn from our teammates both on the job and in our personal lives, and it's an absolute joy to receive inspiration from them.





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## DEREK BAILEY NAMED UTPD PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Zone Maintenance Director Derek Bailey was recently named the UTPD Partner of the Year! Derek's work with UTPD through the Emergency Operations Center during COVID response and game day procedures is a shining example of our commitment to support and empower those we serve with commitment to the traditions of our campus. We're grateful for Derek and proud to see him honored in this way.



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## CHUCK THOMPSON AWARD WINNERS 2021

In honor of former Assistant Director of Facilities Services, Charles F. (Chuck) Thompson, his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Thompson, established an endowment with the University of Tennessee specifically designated for two annual cash-incentive awards for non-exempt employees of our department.

Every year, two awards are given, one from the skilled craft areas and one from the clerical, services and support areas, and each recipient must have at least 10 years of service with the university. This year, 31 people were nominated across a total of 86 nominations, and it is the consensus of the committee that the winning individuals embody the very spirit of these awards.

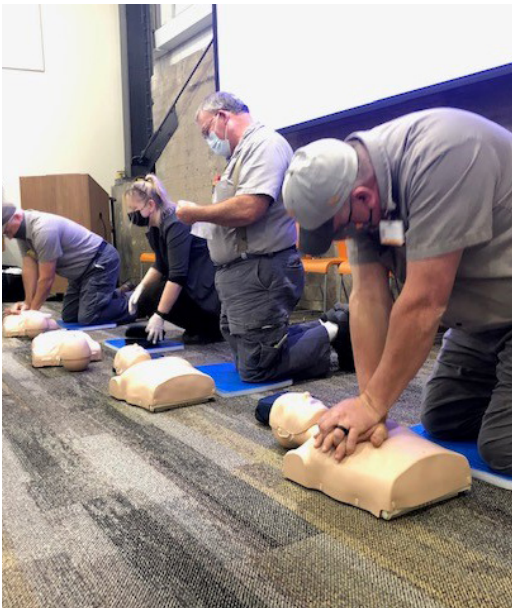
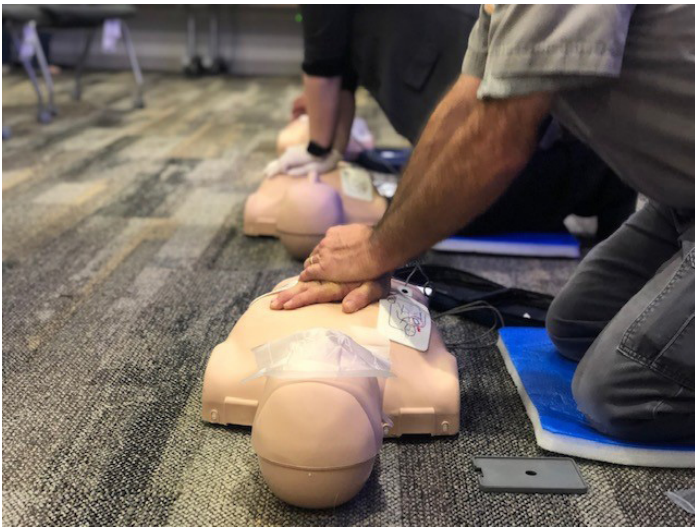
The 2021 Chuck Thompson Award winners are Temeka McDermott (Service/Clerical) and David Ridings (Crafts). Both of these individuals embody the spirit of these awards, and it's an honor to count them among our winners.



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## CPR, AED & FIRST AID TRAINING

Our employees are often the first on the scene for campus emergencies, and whether that's a water leak or a medical emergency, we want to be prepared. As a result, we offer CPR, AED, and first aid training to our staff in an effort to ensure we are ready to jump in and help if needed by a student, staff member, faculty member or visitor. We take our job of supporting our campus seriously. Thanks to Nation's Best CPR for the excellent training and hands-on experience! Below are photos from the training that took place this fall.





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## SCUP CONFERENCE A RESOUNDING SUCCESS ON ROCKY TOP

In October, our Design Services team graciously hosted the SCUP Conference on Rocky Top where they received high praise from all participants. This year's event raised more money than ever and was considered a resounding success. Shout out to our Design Services team members who helped assemble swag bags, attended the event, and planned out the details. This was no small feat, especially during COVID-19. Your hard work paid off in spades!



## PINK DAY 2021

UTFS hosted our annual Pink Day in October to raise money and awareness for breast cancer research. This year, we raised money for Susan G. Komen online, and we had several units represented in pink as part of this event. Thanks to all who wore pink and/or donated!



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

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## SAM ADAMS RECEIVES JOHN G. MARTIN AWARD

Arboriculturist Sam Adams was recently honored with the John G. Martin Award! This award is granted to an individual within the Southern Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture who exemplifies the backbone and soul of their profession.

While we already knew that Sam is the embodiment of what an arboriculturist should be, it's nice to see him recognized by others in his field!

Congratulations, Sam!



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## Employee Comment Box Locations:

- Facilities Services Complex Break Room
- Facilities Services Shop Area
- Hodges Library outside room 171a
- Steam Plant (near time clock)
- Landscape Trailer Breakroom
- SERF outside of room 426
- Former Sanitation Safety (Pest Control) Area at Facilities Services Volunteer Blvd. Location
- The electronic employee comment box can be found at **[tiny.utk.edu/fscommentbox](https://tiny.utk.edu/fscommentbox)**.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## DECEMBER

Cody Chapin	12-01
Carolyn Brogan-Caudillo	12-02
Mazdyn Miller	12-02
Cody Byrge	12-02
Beau Baker	12-02
Tommy Oakley	12-02
Geneva Andrew	12-03
Andrew Powers	12-03
Melinda Townsend	12-04
Jose Rivero	12-04
Kasondra Tatum	12-06
Jonathan Parigin	12-07
David Bodenheimer	12-08
Stewart Smith	12-10
Daniel Covington	12-13
Luther Holloway	12-14
Lisa Ward	12-14
Joel Tomlinson	12-14
Shannon Whitehead	12-15
Cory Beets	12-16
Melissa Ingram	12-17
Timothy Brooks	12-17
Cesar Penalba	12-18
Seth McElhaney	12-19
Randall Nicley	12-19
Robert Patty	12-20
Ann Free	12-21
Edward Jeter	12-23
David Crigger	12-25
Carl Weaver	12-25
Timothy Widener	12-27
Samantha Ledford	12-28
Wesley Willoughby	12-28
Randall Carver	12-28
Michael Nack	12-29
Jason Cottrell	12-29
Thomas Emmert	12-29
Edward McDaniel	12-29
Stephanie Stanley	12-31
Debra Norman	12-31
Timothy Harris	12-31

## JANUARY

Saba Abdel Kadir	01-01
Philomene Musabyeyezu	01-01
Mahmoud Dalal	01-01
Maria Ntirandekura	01-01
Hani Joseph	01-02
Marc Dyrness	01-03
William Pace	01-03
Raymond Graziano	01-04
Lucy Quinones Moriano	01-04
Veronica Huff	01-04
Evghenia Sevastianova	01-07
Robert Baggett	01-08
Randy Gentry	01-08
Leo Pedigo	01-12
Roy Britt	01-12
Peter Scanlan	01-13
Hunter Clark	01-13
Robert Clark	01-14
Jason Tafao	01-16
Kyle DeLong	01-16
Sheree Spoons	01-18

Timothy Sullivan	01-18
Patrick Pardee	01-18
Duane Gobin	01-20
Christopher Ledford	01-21
Jeromey White	01-22
Camryn Weekly	01-24
Billy King	01-24
Judy Jones	01-25
Timothy Thompson	01-26
Iesha Shaw	01-27
Timothy Solomon	01-27
Jeffrey Clark	01-27
Larisa Lesan	01-28
Tyler Ervin	01-28
Terry Ash	01-29
Brandon Toro	01-30
Jesse Standifer	01-30
Robert Bryant	01-30
Tony Arms	01-30
Destin Cash	01-31
Jeffrey Walker	01-31

## FEBRUARY

Tyler Vandiver	11-01
Timothy Faulkner	02-01
Emily Morris	02-01
David Byrne	02-01
Paulette Prinston	02-01
Jeff Barnes	02-01
Mitchell Carpenter	02-02
Herbert Jones	02-02
Maria Martinez	02-02
Henry Bennett Meeks	02-02
Greg Burress	02-02
Jimmy Brewer	02-03
Sara Scott	02-03
Stacey Kitts	02-04
Todd Molter	02-05
David McGill	02-05
Mitzi Elrod	02-06
David Collins	02-07
Randy Love	02-08
Jason Carringer	02-09
Charles Hill	02-10
Perry Longmire	02-10
Michael Atkinson	02-11
Sylvena Mattress	02-12
Edward Mitchell	02-12
Scottie Davis	02-13
Jeffrey Talley	02-14
Joseph Cocan	02-14
Trinity McCulley	02-15
Daniel Giles	02-15
Robert Frick	02-15
Jonas Johnson	02-16
Dennis Frank	02-16
Nikki Woolsey	02-17
James Bowman	02-17
Gerald Gibbs	02-18
Rhonda Smith	02-19
Sheena Rhea	02-19
Theodore Murphy	02-20
David Ridings	02-20
Michael Welch	02-21
Joel Rummage	02-22
Roger Norris	02-23
Amanda Clark	02-25
Nathan Miller	02-25

Taylor Headrick	02-25
Gary Haggard	02-26
Randall Thornhill	02-26
Maria Zambrano Anchico	02-27
Ronald Couch	02-27
Jacob Capps	02-27
Richard Johnson	02-28
Vuochheang Sullivan	02-28
Grant Jackson	02-28
Ghenadi Popescul	02-28

## MARCH

Steven Church	03-01
Jeff Rentsch	03-01
James Mack	03-02
Donna Norris	03-03
Roy Nance	03-03
Jason Hall	03-05
Charles Bull	03-07
Hannah Tolbert	03-07
Gary Robertson	03-08
Dennis Miller	03-08
Stanford Kirk	03-09
Mary Parker	03-10
Emory White	03-10
Vera Racilla	03-11
Thomas McConnell	03-11
Frank Bunner	03-11
Gordon Nelson	03-12
Chris Iler	03-12
David Webb	03-13
Lauren Colato De Posantes	03-13
Michael Capps	03-13
Jonathan Christmas	03-13
Ronald Cody	03-13
Terry Ledford	03-16
Dwight Cullom	03-17
Tiffanie Casteel	03-17
Veaceslav Sevastianov	03-18
Michael Hastie	03-18
Richard Caldwell	03-19
Dwyane Miller	03-19
Melvin Godfrey	03-19
James Rowland	03-19
Todd Curnutt	03-20
Kevin Ammons	03-21
Steve Long	03-21
John Estes	03-22
Steven Kerley	03-23
Jimmy Blair	03-24
Taylor Sloan	03-25
Richard Shackelford	03-25
Anthony Dixon	03-26
Robert Jenkins	03-26
Marie Lemons	03-27
William Rider	03-27
Wayne Cowden	03-27
James McClellan	03-27
Gage Johnathan Murphy	03-31