



# THE FACILITIES TIMES

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

October 2018

## Brock awarded first place for Gavin renovation

Congratulations are in order for interior designer Whitney Brock, who was recognized by the Association of University Interior Designers for her work on the Gavin Engineering Research Laboratory renovation.

Brock received first place at the AUID Design Competition Awards during the group's annual conference in the renovation over \$500,000 category for the recently completed Gavin renovation.

"Great recognition," said Bob Hix, assistant director of Design Services. "Whitney worked many long hours prior to the building dedication."

Originally the Textile Building, the renovation's infrastructure dated back to 1929, designed by Warren, Knight and Davis, previously an architecture firm in Birmingham.

Brock helped transform the building into a modern research center.

The project was valued at \$18 million and began in the summer of 2016.

"We're so proud of Whitney," said interior designer Margaret Devall.



From left, interior designers Margaret Devall, Whitney Brock and Sarah Rakestraw celebrate Brock's first place victory for her Gavin renovation.

## Facilities career fair set for Nov. 8

Facilities Management will host a Career Fair from 2-7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8. The fair will take place in the Building 1 training room.

The fair will give visitors inside and outside the organization opportunities to meet with Facilities' supervisors from several departments including:

### Maintenance

- Electrical
  - Plumbing
  - Heating and Air Conditioning
  - Asbestos Removal
  - Heavy Construction
  - Automotive
  - Access Control
  - Cabinetry
  - Fabrication
- Campus Services
- Landscape Services

- Mail Services
- Materials Management
- Pesticide
- Service Support
- Waste & Recycling
- Work Management

### Design and Construction

- Construction Management
- Design Services
- Project Support

### Utilities and Energy

- Electrical Distribution
- Energy Management
- Plant Operations
- Utility Services

### Office of University Architect

- Capital Projects
- Campus Planning and Space Management

Visitors will also have a chance to

meet hiring supervisors from:

- Alabama Career Center System
- Auburn University Human Resources
- Facilities Management Human Resources

Please share this information with friends and family who may be interested in working with Facilities.

For more information on this event, contact Perry Wood at (334) 844-9435 or woodper@auburn.edu.

JOIN

THE

TEAM.

# October News Briefs

## BLOOD DRIVE

AT FACILITIES, BLDG. 6  
NOVEMBER 7, 2018  
9:00 AM TIL 3:00 PM

**\*\*All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission.**



Waste Reduction and Recycling will hold a document shredding day Tuesday, Nov. 6, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the loading dock of Facilities Management Building 8.

**United Way**



**United Way of Lee County**

The deadline to return pledge cards for the annual Lee County United Way Campaign is Nov. 16.

## November employee recognitions

A total 38 Tiger Tickets and 55 Certificates of Appreciation were presented for the final month of the programs' operation.

Receiving **Tiger Tickets** were:

Jason Amling, Forrest Bearden, Ted Bryant, Junior Decker, William Dempster, Ellen Doyle, Rocio Evans, Matthew Geer, Martha Gentry, Richard Guether, Laurie Hanson, Judy Hazelrigs, Joan Hicken, Nickey Jackson, Robert Jones, Doug Kennedy, Eric Kennedy, James Kerr, Vanessa Kleypas, Lisa Martin,

Michial McCormick, Gabriel McKenzie, Marcus Moore, David Morgan, Christopher Pruitt (Customer Service), Christopher Pruitt (Teamwork), Sarah Rakestraw, Denise Roebuck, Anthony Smith, Stephen Stroud, Lori Surfield, Justin Sutton (Leadership Excellence), Justin Sutton (Teamwork), Nolan "Ty" Torbert, John Vollar, Karen Whitehead, Edwin Wood and Jason Yeomans.

Receiving **Certificates of Appreciation** were:

Jason Amling, Forrest Bearden, Jonathan Brown, Marcell Burns (Customer Service), Marcell Burns (Safety), Terry Carter, Charlie Chappell, Ronald Daniel, Junior Decker, Emory

Dillard, Jerry Dowdell, Anthony Driver, Brittany Foster, Edward Galik,

Deandre Gilmore, William Goggans, Forrest Hall, Amanda Harris, Alexander Hedgepath, Travis Herrmann, Michael Hood, Jecorius Johnson, Steven "Beaver" Johnston, Robert Jones (Customer Service), Robert Jones (Safety),

Daniel Keeble, Eric Kennedy, Cedric Ligon, Gabriel McKenzie, Eric Moon (Customer Service), Eric Moon (Safety), Marcus Moore, David Morgan, Jenna Morgan, Mason Morgan, Robert Overstreet (Customer Service), Robert Overstreet (Safety), Mark Pierce, Aaron Pittman (Customer Service), Aaron Pittman (Safety), Christopher Pruitt, Bruce Reid, Denise Roebuck, Jonathan Sandlin, Dalton Sconyers,

Stephen Stroud (Customer Service), Stephen Stroud (Safety), James Thomas (Safety), James Thomas (Support Excellence), Willie Thomas (Customer Service), Willie Thomas (Safety), John Vollar (Customer Service), John Vollar (Safety), Edwin Wood (Customer Service) and Edwin Wood (Safety).

Congratulations to those receiving the awards, and thank you for your dedication to Facilities Management!

## Pumpkin drop a success



*Pumpkins sit prepared to be crushed and splattered for the second Great Pumpkin Drop held by Facilities Safety Management. The event is used to showcase, to dramatic effect, the difference in wearing a safety helmet at a job site and not wearing one. Photos continued on next page.*

### Editorial and Writing Staff

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AUBURN UNIVERSITY  
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Submit Feedback to Trey Wood at [woodcas@auburn.edu](mailto:woodcas@auburn.edu)



Please remember to recycle this newsletter.



# EarthPlanters bring color to campus



*From left, Greenhouse Associate Daniel Keeble assists Greenhouse Coordinator Britt Foster with planting flowers along Mell Corridor.*

The city of Auburn is known far and wide for being the Loveliest Village on the Plains, and that carries over directly to Auburn University.

Freshly trimmed lawns cover the landscape. Towering oaks and pines provide homes for animals and shade for students and visitors. Flowers adorn the walkways, building entrances and byways giving needed pollination plantings and color that distinguishes and beautifies the campus.

When the air is dry, however, somebody has the responsibility of watering the planters of flowers across campus to keep them fresh and beautiful. It's a time-consuming job that has to be done.

Luckily, a large amount of those flowers can water themselves. This is in thanks to EarthPlanter pots in, appropriately named, Auburn, NY. These self-watering pots allow large organizations like Auburn University to drastically reduce the amount of time spent hand-watering flower pots. This in return saves both time and money in labor and fuel costs and spreads sustainability initiatives campus wide.

In short, the planters make a little water go a long way.

"Traditional pots (mostly concrete) require watering at least three times a week. This watering is done by use of a

water tank, hose or a jug," Greenhouse Coordinator Britt Foster said. "During the hottest part of the summer, once the plants establish, we water once every two weeks. This saves a lot of time and water as well."

Landscaping employees start by filling a large reservoir inside the EarthPlanters. A wicking system pulls water from the reservoir into the plant soil, adjusting the amount of water needed based on soil conditions. Rainwater also contributes to the reservoir, allowing even more time between manual fillings.

The system allows employees to spend less time watering the 108 EarthPlanters across campus and more time on other projects, saving time, money and manpower. The Earthplanter pots can use up to 80% less water than other traditional pots.

"If you just need a little splash of color in a location where you can't necessarily put a flower bed, you can put a planter and it'll add just enough color to any given location," Foster said. "It's convenient too."

Foster and Greenhouse Associate Daniel Keeble recently were busy cleaning out the planters along Mell Corridor. This involved breaking up the soil, adding new soil and planting cold-weather tolerant flowers that will grow throughout the fall and winter.

The EarthPlanters allow setup to be completed in just a few hours, saving time and labor efforts.

"Landscape Services has steadily increased the amount of annual color on campus each year," Landscape Services Superintendent Justin Sutton said. "This increase is in part due to the labor and cost savings from the use of Earthplanters. The increase is possible due to re-design of existing landscape beds where we can add annual color and addition of annual color planter pots across campus."

To Foster, it's about getting flower color in places where they can be seen, to make Auburn University look as vibrant as it is with the amount of labor available.

"I like them because they show that we're beautifying campus by adding even more beautiful flowers," she said.

"The addition of pots along many of the hardscape areas across campus brings appeal and interest to often less aesthetically pleasing areas," Sutton said. "Overall the addition of these pots and annual color has had a huge impact on our campus landscape. Many have taken notice. We will continue to incorporate other methods of sustainability within our campus landscape."