Mr. Sandridge Talks with FM

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Leonard Sandridge (standing), who will retire in December 2010, was guest speaker at the October 29 meeting of the Facilities Management Employee Council. He took questions from members and offered explanations and insight on topics ranging from employee health care costs, the University budget, and extensive construction over the last 20 years. Council members (L-R) Betty Bowman, Darrell Napier, David Morgan and Chair June Jones wished Mr. Sandridge a pleasant last year at the University.

A Tradition of the Season

Many thanks to the Facilities Management employees and MR5 Cardiovascular Research Center in support of the 20th annual Charlottesville Toy Lift. Seven new bicycles and 118 great toys were collected and delivered to Toy Lift on December 4 by Brenda Buttner, key organizer for the event, and Tim Gilmer and Martin Rush of General Services. Toys will be given to over 3000 less fortunate children in the Charlottesville area. Brenda also sold handmade ornaments to donate over $400 to the Toy Lift and Breast Cancer Research.

Work in Progress for New Health System Facilities

University Hospital Bed Expansion (HBE) Project team members (L-R) Project Director Joe Rainwater, Construction Administration Manager David Watkins, Senior Construction Administration Manager Chris Hoy and Construction Administration Manager Bree Knick pose in front of the Towers that will face and reflect the Emily Couric Clinical Cancer Center.
Danny Collins (left) retired December 9 after almost 35 years of service at the Main Heat Plant. He has the most years of service of any Heat Plant employee. When he started his career here in August 1974, coal was stored in a yard, not silos. Throughout the years, Danny earned many promotions and completed significant training. Including 1st Class license under the National Institute for the Uniform Licensing of Plant Engineers (NIULPE). During his career at the University, Danny received numerous awards and recognition for his professionalism, strong work ethic, “can do” attitude, and dedication to the Heat Plants team and the University. One of his first recognition awards occurred in 1980 when he assisted with the effort to restore steam service to the Rotunda, Lawn, and Range areas of the Academical Village, which is recognized as a World Heritage Site. Other awards and recognition he received for his extraordinary efforts in keeping steam available during the blizzard of 1996, his exemplary response to multiple boiler failures that occurred during the winter of 2003, and his help during Hurricane Isabel, which became classified as the “deadliest and costliest” Atlantic hurricane in 2003, with Virginia suffering the worst effects.

Danny has seen extensive changes, replacements and new installations at the Heat Plant over the years, Don Sundgren noted in a letter of congratulations, “and through it all you worked to help keep the plant reliable and safe. Your hard work, dedication, and commitment throughout the years have been commendable and very much appreciated.” (Right) The Heat Plant team honored Danny with a 7 a.m. retirement party as he completed his shift. One employee commented to Danny: “Although our customers may not know our names, they appreciate what we do for them.”

Updates from the Facilities Management Safety Program

Keith Woodson (center) joined the Facilities Management’s Safety Program recently and will be assisting Safety Officer Mark Breeden and Program Manager Brian Shifflett with mechanical room inspections and the other issues that must be addressed to keep your work environment safe. As the holiday season and winter weather hazards approach, the Safety Program staff reminds you to always wear your seatbelt when you are in a vehicle, either as the driver or a passenger. Virginia law requires seat belt use for drivers and front seat passengers over 16 years of age, but make sure that all passengers in the vehicle are properly buckled up. Sheet Metal Supervisor Greg Clements (above right) demonstrates the proper placement of the seatbelt: over the shoulder, not under your arm. Employees are required to use seat belts when traveling in University vehicles.

While you are at home enjoying the holidays, the Safety Program staff also encourages you to check the batteries in your smoke alarm and to be sure that holiday decorations do not pose a fire hazard, especially if you are decorating with candles and flammable materials.
“Becoming an American citizen is a privilege: it means so much to me, it means freedom, especially for victims of war, victims of the times,” said Berhan Aliji, Fiscal Technician Senior with Financial Operations, who became a U.S citizen in September. Originally from Kosovo, Berhan was studying in the College of Electrical Engineering in Pristina in 1999 when he and his family fled to a refugee camp to escape the wars that ravaged the former Yugoslavian states. When the deadline for refugee applications was drawing closer, Berhan’s parents refused to leave behind his brother who went missing in the camps. Berhan said he told them, “Well, one of us has to go,” so he decided to leave for America, first arriving in North Carolina through the sponsorship of Lutheran Family Services. Berhan is now continuing his studies at PVCC to earn a degree in Business Administration and hopefully transferring to UVa.

In the months before the University’s conversion to Self Service Time & Leave, a bi-weekly paperless payroll system, Facilities Management’s Human Resources & Training, Finance, and Information Systems Offices prepared internal processes and our employees for the September 14 go-live. (L-R seated) HR&T’s Training Coordinator Sarah McComb and Director Rebecca Leinen worked closely with UHR to understand and communicate new processes and policies. Because the automated system changed the way premium pay is calculated, HR&T solicited for employee shift information which then had to be entered on each employee’s Oracle record by Stephanie Burnette (L standing). Information Technology Analyst Wei Sun modified the Maximo work order system so employees could continue to report their hours using WebDaily time which is later uploaded into SSTL based on University requirements. Timekeepers Aurora Crane (R seated), (L-R standing) Sandy Mawyer, Pat Napier, and Payroll Manager Martha Creasy participated in extensive training to learn the new system and serve as vital resources to Facilities Management ensuring that employee time is accurately entered into SSTL and WebDaily.

Hoo Retired: Les Staton after 33 Years

Les Staton, known as the “building fire inspection code guy,” retired September 24 with 33 years of service at the University. When Les joined HSPP in May 1976 as an electrician, UVa had 300 buildings – it now has over 500. While the University has seen many changes since Les arrived, Don Sundgren wrote in a letter of congratulations, “one thing that has not changed is your dedication, work ethic and desire to provide the best possible services…. Clearly the many accolades you have received over the years confirm your performance.” Les continued his professional development and completed courses in fire alarm systems. In 1986, he was promoted to electrician leadman with responsibility for the University’s fire alarm systems. In 1993, he transferred to Health Sciences Center Security and Life Safety as fire protection inspector. In 1995, he was complimented for exceeding expectations in Life Safety and Fire Code compliance. In 1997, Les completed requirements for certification as Virginia Fire Marshal Fire Inspector. Since then, Les continued to excel in his work, providing leadership and serving as a mentor to others. He has provided valuable assistance to FP&C in resolving technical issues.

Hoo’s Making Important Accomplishments...
Annual BBQ Celebrates Successful CVC: Hoos Care

BBQ highlights clockwise from top left: CVC Coordinator Joyce Chewning (L seated) awarded 245 door prizes with assistance from (L-R) Connie Knighting, Aurora Crane and Molly Shifflett. Shawn Campbell and Yusaf Hussein said the food was great. Brenda Buttnar greeted Scott Martin (R) at the front table as Abdulla Mohamed passes by. Tim Spencer greeted Bill Middleton, former Chief Facilities Officer, who retired in 1993. Cold? Not us! (L-R) Jennifer Oman, David Villiott, Eugenio Schettini and Amy Wells. Robert Noble won the gourmet basket. Families attend the event, too: Kevin Lawrence and wife Nicole, daughter Ava and son Addison; our colleague Linda Woods and son Jayson of the Lockshop; Matt Bartley (of GIS) and brother Nicholas and niece Naomi. Heading up the food service line were Frank Coffman and Chris Toney, who advised “Keep your fork close by.” Edith Barbour, Brenda Michie, Cheryl Jones and Tammy Carter modeled the right attire for the event: warm and rainproof! HSPP’s Dick Williams, Joe Groot and Frank Clark said the fare was well worth braving the chilly day. Annette Cyphers, Don Sundgren, Jay Klingel, Nancy Rivers, Colette Sheehy and Sack Johannesmeyer discussed projects after lunch. North Grounds’ Marvin Jackson, Dawn Roach and Curtis Jackson enjoyed the event despite the weather.
18th Annual Day of Caring Helped Children and Seniors

Over 100 Facilities Management employees volunteered their time and talents at three locations for the 18th Annual Day of Caring September 23. Clockwise from top left: Landscapers Stephanie Heltbran and (not pictured) Specialist Chris Ward aerated, seeded and fertilized the Lane Babe Ruth Baseball League Field. Maintenance Program Manager Greg Streit helped Mason Aaron Morris with cabin foundation repairs. Landscapers Chris Brooks, Kenny Felton, Shawn Tindall, Michelle Beaudreau and David Starkes cleared trails. Landscapers Mike Dillard, Kassim Hassan (far left) and Deborah Tyler (2nd from R) offered guidance to the mulch madness team: Greg Streit, Kathy Yarmey, Kate Meyer, Betty Bowman, Shawn Walker, Jody London, Wes Franklin (also a landscaper), Lynn Rush, Gary Allen and Tony DiTolve. Carpenter Kenny Dudley and Gary Shifflett repaired cabins. Landscapers Roland Von der Muhll, Tim Spencer and Ibrahim Jour cut back hillside vegetation. Roofers George Prokopic (standing) and Sidney Taylor installed new downspouts. Electrician Dave Roberts installed new wiring for a cabin. Arborists (L) Jerry Brown and Don Goebel had help from Sam Walker and Stephanie Heltbran. At the Senior Center, the windows and floors gleamed after this team finished their work. (L-R) Norman Hughes, Reggie McGhee, Sharon Eldridge, Rita Shifflett, Veronica Holland, Joseline McCowin, Jesse Johnson and Franz Bailey.

Noted with Regret...

Ken Smith, former director of Facilities Planning & Construction, died November 2. A graduate of Virginia Military Institute where he received his B.A. in Civil Engineering, Ken served on active duty as well as the US Army Reserves, retiring with the rank of Major. Ken joined Facilities Management in 1985 and was instrumental in establishing many initiatives including the creation of FP&C’s annual Inforums as a setting for architects, engineers and construction companies who wanted to bid/work with UVa on projects to get to know the system and the staff. The photo at left was taken at Ken’s retirement party in 2003; he was presented with a collage showing the new buildings that were commissioned during his tenure.
Compliments from Customers...

To Editha Galos and Swantain Reeves on the outstanding housekeeping services they provide daily for all of the library employees and patrons. They are most courteous to all and provide us with a beautiful work environment. They are part of our team here and I want you to know we appreciate their excellent services and most importantly, the pride they take in the work they do here. Kudos to Editha and Swantain for their services. -Linda Vaughan, Charles L. Brown Science & Engineering Library

To Barbara Hutcherson: She is a Building Services worker to be proud of -- always cheerful, helpful, very busy. I wanted to let you know what a great worker you have in this employee. I hope we can retain her for our area. - Joyce Dunn, Customer Service Representative, Procurement Services

To Judy Kingrea, Mary Mitchell, Mary Steppe, Randolph Morris: When this team stripped and cleaned the floors in my large laboratory in Jordan Hall), they did the best job I have seen in all the time I have been at UVA. Everyone in my lab is impressed and grateful. I know Mary ...always does a good job and everyone likes her. Thank you. - Avril V. Somlyo, Ph.D., Professor of Molecular Physiology & Biological Physics

To Gary Allen and Linda Brown of HSPP: When a colleague and I were returning from a meeting in HSC West complex recently, she had sudden medical episode which was completely incapacitating for her. It wasn’t safe for me to try to move her myself so I just stayed with her on the steps landing at the Health Sciences Library. Many staff and medical students walked by but Gary Allen actually stopped, looked over the railing and said “May I help you?” He called Linda Brown and found a wheel chair. With their help, we were able to get my colleague back up the steps and into a wheel chair. They went above and beyond. If Gary hadn’t stopped, the situation could have resulted in a far worse scenario. Gary and Linda saved the day by being helpful and very professional the entire time. Please let them know how much the help is appreciated. -Sarah E. Souder, Supervisor, Patient Accounts & Legal Collections, UVA Health Services Foundation

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To Wanda Hedges and Anna Towns: I have seen great collaborative efforts from your department. When Wanda Hedges visits several times a year, we walk around the building and look for things that are in need of repair or replacement. As happens on each of these occasions, each item put on the list is dealt with in a flash. Recently, I pointed out how tired the building looked; the paint on the walls needing to be redone, etc. I told Wanda that I was willing (fund) work if we could come up with materials…. Your team jumped right on it. Anna Towns called about furniture leaving Garrett Hall...we acted fast and re-furnished our Green Room Lounge with that furniture from Garrett Commons. We also got other items from other locations...and much money was saved! Anna and Wanda should definitely be commended. As we work to become more sustainable and funding is tightened, the ability to re-allocate materials is going to become more important than ever. -Steven Lewis Warner, MFA, Lecturer/Technical Director, UVA Drama Dept.

To Larry Dorrier and Roger Henry: Thanks to Larry and Roger for the great work they did on the HVAC system at Kluge-Ruhe Collection recently. We have been having problems with our indoor climate as it relates to the preservation of our art work since last summer. Larry and Roger were able to trouble shoot our system and make improvements that have been keeping our temperature and relative humidity stable since last week. This is crucial to preserving the valuable art in our storage spaces. It was a pleasure working with Larry and Roger... we look forward to working together in the future to stabilize our gallery climate. - Dominique Cocuzza, Associate, Curator, Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection
Good Work on Challenging Projects

After a forensic study performed in 2000 on Campbell Hall’s original (c. 1968) brick veneer identified specific technical reasons for the masonry’s signs of distress, it was determined the brick veneer would need to be replaced eventually. In 2009, two large panels of brick on Campbell’s west end were replaced by Facilities Management forces as a prototype project for a future replacement of all the original brick. The mortar had to be an exact match. Facilities Management forces were chosen over the use of a contractor in order to shorten the design and construction procurement time periods, ensure high quality work, and not incur contractor’s “delay” change orders upon discovery of unknown hidden conditions, which were highly anticipated. The work is of the best quality, and the Facilities Management team members named below always displayed a “can-do” spirit regardless of what the project “threw at them.”

Others who worked on the project included:
- Building Trades Supervisor Senior Steve Clark
- Mason & Plasterer Supervisor Dale Newton
- Masons Richard Davis, Bert Critzer, Blair Hawkins
- Mason Apprentices Juan Colindres & Colin Payne
- Carpenter Supervisor Brian Tinnell
- Carpenter Lead Anthony Whindleton
- Carpenters David Simpson, Bill Hodges, Todd Stroupe, Walter Harris, and Tommy Benson
- Carpenter Apprentice Jennifer Maiorano
- Roofer Supervisor Mike Crawford
- Roofers Jon Marston, Duane Taylor, Shannon Wood
- Electrical Supervisor Sr. Henry Garrison
- Electrical Lead Larry Snively
- Electricians Joseph Jackson and Robert Marks
- Electrical Apprentice Carrie Seningen
- Equipment Operator Frank Hill
- Materials Handler Mike Baber
- Painter Lead Jamie Shifflett
- Painters Frankie Payne and Kenny Thompson
- Hazardous Materials Handler Supervisor Rufus Rush
- Hazardous Materials Handler Logan McGann
- Landscape Supervisor Tim Spencer
- Computer Aided Design Drafter Sam Walker
- Project Services Estimator Mike Gibson
- Project Services Business Mgr. & Scheduler Doug Morris
- Construction Coordinator / Inspector Keith Payne

(Left) Plumbers Lee Wright and Tom Cromwell were part of the team who recently replaced a 160 ft 5-inch sewer main in the basement mechanical room of Newcomb Hall. The work was completed without interruption of service to the heavily used building which houses major dining facilities, meeting rooms and offices. Others who worked on the project were Tiewan Benston, Sandy Gardner, Thomas Evatt, Jerry Schwartz (2nd photo), Gary Morris (3rd photo) Lee Bryant, Kenny Graham and Kevin Sharrer. When a sewer main had to be replaced at Alderman Road and the final phase required water shut-down and weekend work, (right photo L-R), Tiewan, Sandy, Tom Cromwell and Thomas Evatt worked on that project. (Newcomb and pipe photos by Lee Bryant)
During recent blood drives, Facilities Management donated over 40 pints of blood during recent on site blood drives. Being cheered on by the technicians are (L-R) Louise Gilliam (proud in pink), Gary Allen and Howie Brown, and Dwight Early. Thanks to all who supported the events - your donations help save lives.

Hoo’s Giving Back to the Community...

Hoo’s Controlling the Snow...

The University’s first snow of the season arrived December 5, and Facilities Management’s snow patrol began work at 6 a.m. to assure safe and easy access on Grounds. James Hutcherson and Ruben Trujillo added another load of sand for Health System parking lots and streets. “Snow Czar” Frank Hill waved as he continued his rounds. Dale Novotny and Carl Diehr adjust a snow plow. Tim Spencer (in the plow truck) checked in with Dale as the snow fell and Saturday afternoon approached.

Early in the 2009 Hoo’s for the Hungry Food Drive, collection coordinators Joyce Chewning and Betty Bowman had a barrel ready for representatives of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, thanks to generous donations by Facilities Management employees.