

A newsletter highlighting and connecting the people and work of Facilities Management at the University of Kentucky

*The Covid-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on our campus and community. The people of UK Facilities Management remain the “boots on the ground” for UK, providing the essential services needed to keep our campus safe, secure, and positioned to respond to the evolving crisis. The strength each of you demonstrate daily is inspiring and represents such courage and compassion. We are in this together and we will get through it together. **Thank you for everything you do.** – Mary Vosevich, Vice President for Facilities Management*



Swim at your own risk. Keeping all the facilities of the University of Kentucky tuned up, safe, and looking their best is an around-the-clock task that requires tremendous skill and dedication. Many visitors, students, and employees have no idea how many different jobs **Facilities Management** completes on a daily basis, or what it takes sometimes to get this work done. Last week, **Harold (Tree) Sandford, Jay Kennedy, and Stephen Drury**, donned SCUBA gear and dove in to brace the bulkheads at the Lancaster Aquatics Center. These three members of our **Operations** teams embody the combination of skill and dedication that make us who we are.



“THANK YOU DOCTORS AND NURSES.” As the historic demolition of the Kirwan Blanding Complex continues, our partners conducting this work took an opportunity to send a message of gratitude to the frontline healthcare professionals who are working tirelessly to protect the health of our community. The KB residential complex, which opened in 1968, provided a home-away-from-home for tens of thousands of students over the past 52 years. In December 2019, UK’s Board of Trustees approved funding to remove the complex and begin planning new ideas for this iconic site. Thanks for sending in this story idea, **Tree!**



A new living learning lab for our campus. In early 2017, **George Riddle and Jerry Hart**, brainstormed ways to improve maintenance and mowing conditions around an entrenched stream just east of the Barnhart Soccer Softball Complex along Alumni Drive. The area was perpetually muddy and hard to mow. They decided the best option was to restore the stream to a natural condition. Last week, thanks to a stormwater grant from LFUCG and partnerships with UK Faculty, our contractor put some of the finishing touches on the area. The restoration greatly improves our ability to maintain this part of campus, improves storm water conditions, and creates an important new outdoor classroom for students in a wide range of courses.



Faces of Facilities – William Kelly

William is a new member of our team. He has worked for **Custodial Services** since early the fall of 2019, about nine months. Originally from southern Californian, he has been married for 19 years and he and his wife have one son. Regarding our current situation, William said, “At the Margaret I. King Library where I’m keeping it clean and disinfected, there are people working very hard to keep on-line learning smooth and (make sure) students are getting what they need.”

**SEE BLUE (jeans)
SEE SERVICE**

This Friday, **Facilities Management**, is joining forces with THE BIG BLUE PANTRY to fight student hunger. If you bring a non-perishable food item to donate that day, you can wear blue jeans to work. More details will be provided later in the week and there will be a drive-by option for the folks working remotely to get them out of their pajamas. .