

JMU Facilities News

December 2017



Matilda Honeycutt: Respite Foster Parent

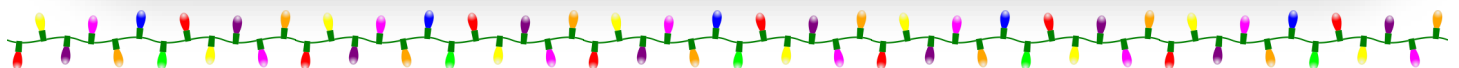


We all leave imprints on this earth through how we choose to spend our time and to what we dedicate ourselves. Matilda Honeycutt is a long-term (30 years!) JMU employee working in the Landscape Department. She, along with her co-workers, make their professional mark on this campus by working tirelessly every day to ensure that the university is a beautiful and inviting place for employees, students, their families and multitudes of visitors. Personally, Matilda helps to enrich the lives of children who come from and are involved in challenging situations.

Matilda and her husband, Kenny, are respite foster parents. They care for foster children in their home, strictly on the weekends. Most foster children come from home situations involving drug use, abuse and/or neglect. Regardless of the circumstances, it is traumatic for a child to deal with their personal situations and instability, among other issues. Consequently, foster family situations can be highly stressful for both the child and the families in just navigating the Monday through Friday routines, school, homework and interpersonal conflict. Weekend respite fostering provides a break and some relief to both the foster children and the foster families. During these weekend visits, Matilda and her husband get to do fun or relaxing activities with their guests

such as playing outside, going to yard sales and auctions, visiting with family, and watching movies.

Fostering is a cause near to the heart of Matilda's husband. Kenny was a foster child himself and faced abusive situations in a foster home. His story resulted in a happy conclusion, though, with adoption by his last foster family. Given his experiences, Kenny relates strongly to these children and they feel comfortable talking to him. Fostering has really opened Matilda's eyes to the devastating trials children undergo. It is truly heartbreaking. Providing this respite care for children and their foster families has been so meaningful to Matilda and Kenny. They sincerely appreciate having the opportunity to give back to the community and help to make a positive difference. Matilda wishes more people could do it and welcomes questions about her experience. There are also many on-line resources providing information on how to become a foster parent.



Announcements...

4 hours of Recognition Leave: Classified employees, don't forget to use your 4 hours of recognition leave awarded by President Alger by 12/24/2017.

New Parking Deck: Construction on Chesapeake Avenue will begin during Winter Break with an estimated completion date in early 2019.

Wilson Hall Renovation: Construction will begin January 1, 2018 with an estimated completion date around the fall of 2019.

Football Quarterfinals: JMU vs Weber State, Friday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Bridgeforth Stadium

December Graduation: Friday December 15 (Wilson Hall 11:00am, Memorial Hall 2:00 p.m., Wilson Hall 7:00 p.m.) and Saturday December 16 (Convocation Center 10:00 a.m.).

Duo: [Enroll](#) by the end of December 2017 to avoid any problems you may encounter after break!



*USB Christmas Display
courtesy of Tom Contos*

Inquiring Minds Want to Know...

"When cars enter or leave the Warsaw deck how does the digital monitor show how many student or staff spaces are available?"

Could it be that real-time observers in a tech operation hub manage, watch live video and enter updates? Are cameras feeding info to a computer that maybe maps the geometric spaces of each floor to detect open spaces based on three-dimensional volume estimations? Is there a laser scanner at the entrance that reads an embedded chip in the hanging JMU parking tag? Or, how about tiny laser infrared sensors embedded in the concrete ceilings or floors of garages that trip when cars park in or exit the space and those sensors send count messages to the monitors.

So we asked JMU Parking and found out that none of these is the answer! When next entering the Warsaw deck, look up! Suspended from the ceiling at main entrances/exits in JMU's parking garages are ultrasonic sensors that emit sound-waves that bounce back and measure the mass of whatever passes under it. A software system receives data from the garage's entry sensor. Each time a car enters a JMU garage, the ultrasonic sensors software *gets ready to* update information on the digital space available sign. How does the system know which count (staff or student spaces) to update?

The system is patient and waits to learn more! After a set time lapses the staff count will change on the digital sign for that vehicle that entered. But... hold that thought! Within a set time, if that same vehicle passes a second suspended sensor on another level *where student parking begins*, then the student count changes on the digital sign instead of the staff count. The two sensors work together letting the technology figure out if it should change staff or student available space counts on the digital sign. That same process happens in reverse when cars leave.

There we have it! Inquiring minds can think of the multiple ultrasonic sensors as a *kind of sensor team*, working together, watchful, untiringly providing a service... like JMU's other winning team, JMU's Facilities Management! "Like" JMU Facilities Management on Facebook and comment there, to let the Newsletter Committee know what you want to read about in January.



Ultrasonic sensor in the Warsaw Parking Deck



Caught in the A.C.T.: December Recipient

Ricky Lucas (Landscape) for his much appreciated customer service during a verification process by being very thorough, going above and beyond, and being extremely timely.

George Yocum (Transportation) for his exceptional level of service whilst working with last minute requests that were handled seamlessly.

See FM's [Caught in the A.C.T.](#) site for more information

New Hires



(L-R): Maite Perez Frisman (Hskp), Nathanael, Wetzel (Landscape), Hunter May (Landscape), William Anderson (Recycling)

Promotion



Jason Rexrode
IWM Supervisor Senior

JMU Facilities Birthdays for December

Charity Ramsey 12/03
Kathy Kirtley 12/04
Trisha George 12/04
Paul Goins 12/04
Peter Poage 12/04
Crystal Ball 12/04
Lori Butler 12/06
Donna Whetzel 12/07
Taryn Berger 12/08
Wilda Dove 12/08
Ted Staton 12/09
Mary Monger 12/09

Floyd Reedy 12/09
Asllan Shabani 12/10
Amy Miller 12/10
Joe Archer 12/12
Theresa Sutherly 12/12
Vernon Lawson 12/13
Steven Croy 12/14
Claudia Cadena 12/15
Crystal Wegman 12/15
Patricia Livengood 12/15
Amanda Fretwell 12/15
Kimberly Turner 12/17

Sarah Spitzer 12/17
Tony Smith 12/18
Christopher Nazelrod 12/18
Mitchell Propst 12/19
Bob Privott 12/20
Tom Contos 12/20
Timothy Huffman 12/21
Ryan Mowbray 12/23
Chad Adams 12/24
Bryan Sollenberger 12/24
Patrick Kyger 12/25
Elizabeth Boggs 12/25

Tessy May 12/26
Michael Carter 12/26
Asa Taylor 12/26
Wes Auville 12/27
Carla King 12/27
Bruce Price 12/27
Paul Cardin 12/28
Terry Lindsey 12/28
John Trissel 12/30
William Blanton 12/31
Charity Abercrombie 12/31
Eula Gammon 12/31