

# FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Monthly NewsLetter

## AVP GREETING

Dear FM Family,

Happy New Fiscal Year! With the arrival of July 1st, we have entered Fiscal Year 2023 or FY 23 for short. While our FM Business and Operations team is still working hard to close the books on FY 22, it is important to take a breath and take stock of the awesome responsibility that we have as a team to be financially responsible with the funds that are entrusted to us to operate, maintain, and manage our 400 acres of building and grounds spaces and 100+ buildings.

In addition to several important events, we commemorated the Fourth of July this month. Countless millions of people around the world cannot today identify with what freedom means because of the circumstances they or their governments find themselves in, so I hope that you and your friends and loved ones took time to celebrate and honor America.

The 52nd Classified Staff Annual Awards Celebration was held recently. This is an annual event celebrating and honoring staff members of UNLV. Members are recognized for their service to UNLV (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service as well as those that retired). We are very proud of all those FM family members who were recognized for having reached milestone years of service to UNLV!

Next month on August 15th, UNLV will become a smoke-free campus! Joining over 2,000 universities around the US, our campus will no doubt become a healthier and safer place to learn, work, and teach. Personally, I am celebrating ten and a half years since I last smoked a cigarette. The day after a cardiovascular accident that left me with impairments, I was examined by the attending neurologist at Caritas Norwood Hospital in Massachusetts where I'd been

taken by ambulance the night before. While Dr. Napoli was examining me, he asked me: "Do you smoke?" I said yes and the next thing he said resulted in the second life-altering thing to happen to me in under 24 hours: He looked me in the eye and confidently declared: "You've had your last cigarette." Today I can still declare that I did.

Months later that year, I downloaded an app called 'Quit It,' which today is called 'Quit Tracker.' Until I thought about writing this personal account, I hadn't opened the app in many years, but it had been updating in the background all these years! According to the app, in the 3,835 days since January 20, 2012, I have avoided smoking 95,889 cigarettes, saved almost \$41,000, and likely regained just over 2 years of my life back.

Now I know that everyone has a different story and for many of us, it may not be easy to quit cold turkey. If you smoke or use any of the products covered by the policy, please read the entire policy to understand how it may affect you. I will be following University guidance and will work with the FM Leadership Team to determine how the policy may be enforced in our department, but you can expect that break times will likely not be modified to accommodate travel time off campus to smoke. According to the UNLV announcement, "While UNLV is not requiring that people quit smoking or using tobacco products, the university is committed to supporting all those who wish to quit. Assistance to overcome addiction to tobacco products is available. Individuals are encouraged to get help through the Nevada Tobacco Quitline by calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or by visiting <https://nevada.quitlogix.org/en-US/>"

"By becoming a smoke-free, vape-free, and tobacco-free campus, those at UNLV will be

protected from involuntary exposure to tobacco and passive smoke," said (Dean of the School of Public Health) Gerstenberger. "It will also establish a supportive atmosphere for those trying to quit tobacco, and create a culture of wellness for the campus community."

Visit the [UNLV School of Public Health](#) to learn more about the policy and access resources on how to quit.

Thank you as always for all that you do each and every day or night in service to UNLV. Here's to good health!

In Community,  
Musa



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# JULY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all those  
celebrating this month!

Frank Miranda - 07/01  
Jason Simmons - 07/02  
Sean Smyth - 07/02  
Jarred Achong - 07/03  
Annie Kennedy - 07/03  
Michael Bailey - 07/08  
Amy Klvesner - 07/08  
Maisara Abebe - 07/12  
Esteban Solorio - 07/12  
Christine Robinson - 07/13  
Damon Ford - 07/13  
Sabrina Vera - 07/13  
Marlon Ratliff - 07/14  
Lorena Giese - 07/15  
Donni Rincon - 07/17  
Don Johnson - 07/20  
Fabian Mendez - 07/20  
Edward Joseph Jr. - 07/22  
Jeremy Malone - 07/22  
Melissa Phillips - 07/22  
Garrett Hedges - 07/24  
Jeremy Bart Plange - 07/24  
Ronald Ligon - 07/27  
Alecia Stacy - 07/27  
Kenneth Hughes - 07/28  
Kinesha Davis - 07/29  
Mauricio Hasbun - 07/29

## DIVERSITY CORNER - Eid-al-Adha Explained

*Musa Pam conducted an interview with Maisara Abebe, Assistant Director of Facilities Management Information Technology (FMIT) and Haysam Selim Abdelhamid, System Administrator (or Sys-Admin for short to learn about the Eid-al-Adha Muslim celebration).*

***Can you tell us about the Muslim holiday that was celebrated this month?***

There are two major holidays celebrated in the Muslim faith: Eid-al-Fitr is celebrated at the end of the Muslim Holy Month of Ramaddan, which involves fasting for 30 days. The other is Eid-al-Adha, which was celebrated this year on Saturday, July 9th . This is a Muslim festival marking the culmination of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca called Hajj. Pilgrims who fit certain criteria are obligated to make this pilgrimage.

***What do you do to celebrate Eid-al-Adha?***

It is a festive day where one typically visits with family and friends. Depending on your family's means, you may distribute alms, consisting of gifts and/or food given to charities such as orphanages, women's shelters, etc. Food features heavily during this festival and families often divide what they acquire into three parts, keeping one-third for the family celebration, donating one third to charity, and distributing the rest to neighbors, family, and friends. Kids especially love this festival as they get new clothes to wear and they receive presents in the form of money, gifts, clothes, toys, or candy.

A sampling of a family's spread, celebrating Eid.

Source: <https://zamzam.com/blog/eid-dishes/>



# JULY ANNIVERSARIES

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24 years - Dave Coleman, Facility Manager  
23 years - Theresa Castillo, Custodial Supervisor 1  
19 years - Monica Maley-Sidwell, Budget Analyst 2  
17 years - Gregorio Robles, Custodial Worker 2  
15 years - Rebeca Garcia, Custodial Supervisor 1  
14 years - Robert Williams, Maintenance Repair Worker 2  
14 years - Stewart Hitchcock, HVACR Specialist 3  
9 years - Thomas Bean, HVACR Specialist 2  
8 years - Jeffrey Hahn, Maintenance Repair Specialist 2  
7 years - Matthew Whinery, Director/Manager, Building Maintenance  
6 years - Jaime Savage, Grounds Equipment Operator 2  
6 years - Doncarlos Zurita, Maintenance Repair Specialist 1  
5 years - Terry Anderson, Maintenance Repair Specialist 2

5 years - Bryan Murtaugh, Maintenance Repair Specialist 2  
5 years - Frank Catalano, Custodial Worker 2  
5 years - Juan Jurado Servin, Custodial Worker 2  
4 years - Bethany Berrington, Custodial Worker 2  
3 years - Richard Raymond, Grounds Maintenance Worker 5  
3 years - Don Johnson, Director, Facilities Operations  
1 year - Christopher Haraway, Plumber 1



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## FM TRADES & CUSTODIAL EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to all FM Trades &  
Custodial Employees!

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*January - Jason Halgas / LaTonya Atkinslang*

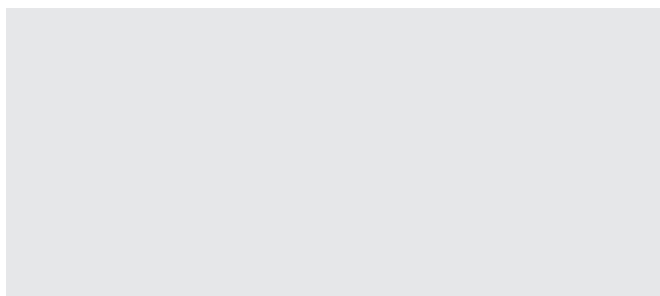
*February - Michael Hicks / Moises Henriquez*

*March - Bryan Murtaugh / Elfega Catalan-Lezama*

*April - Bill Knox / Melissa Philips*

*May - Calvin Milling / Frank Catalano*

*June - Trevin Stone / Bethany "Elissa" Berrington*



## GROUND'S EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

*June - Lamont Fitzgerald*

*May - Aree Johnson*

*April - Fernando Nuno-Ramirez*

# NEW EMPLOYEES, PROMOTIONS, RESIGNATION AND RETIREMENTS

Welcome to all new employees and congratulations to those who received promotions this month !!

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## NEW EMPLOYEES:



**Annie Kennedy,**  
Administrative Assistant II  
Grounds  
07/01/22



**Nakua Olotoa,**  
Student Worker  
Recycling  
07/11/22



**Wanda Porter,**  
Custodial Worker 1  
07/11/22



**Charlton Butt,**  
Student Worker  
Recycling  
07/11/22

*Congratulations!*

## PROMOTIONS:

**Ronald Castillo,**  
Maintenance Repair Worker 3,  
previously Custodial Worker 1  
07/16/22

## RESIGNATIONS:

**Yobany Vargas,**  
Grounds Maintenance Worker 1  
07/01/22

**Jason Lowe,**  
Painter 1  
07/06/22

**Katelyn Brooks,**  
Accounting Technician 2  
07/15/22



## CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE: KUDOS

**Thank you Harry Schiffman and your Electrician Team**

“Please share with the electricians and their supervisor our gratitude for finding a break in our floor power and repairing it. What they did was tantamount to finding a needle in a haystack.

There was power that was never connected in our quiet study area which is on the 3rd floor. They found the break which happened to be on the 2nd floor. Good on those guys for that. Very impressive indeed. A big thank you to Harry and his team”

- *Jimmy Jones*  
*Director, University Libraries Facilities*

### **Congratulations to Dave Coleman for being the recipient of the March Business Affairs Employee Appreciation Award!**

“Congratulations on being a recipient of the March Business Affairs Employee Appreciation Awards!

You were nominated for your diligent effort to fix sewage issues at Runnin’ Rebel Plaza. When UNLV Real Estate called the Facilities Management Help Desk for assistance, you sprang into action without hesitation. This response went above and beyond your normal scope of responsibilities since Runnin’ Rebel Plaza is not a Facilities Management-supported property.

After correcting the issue, you came to campus on Saturday morning to provide documentation and photo evidence to the Southern Nevada Health District.

These coordinated efforts and decision-making helped the affected restaurants rescue most of their weekend business. Your willingness to do whatever is necessary to support our partners in Real Estate deserves recognition.

Your work embodies the C.A.R.E standards. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,  
Jean Vock”

## **High Data Usage UNLVMail and Rebelmail Cleanup Needed (Emails & Files)**

The following is a message from the OIT team -

“Google has announced new storage limits for Google Workspace for Education, and in preparation for this upcoming change, we are sending a notification next week to UNLVMail users (unlv.edu) with 50GB or more in total storage and to RebelMail users (unlv.nevada.edu) with 15GB or more in total storage.

Currently, students, faculty, and staff with UNLVMail and RebelMail accounts have unlimited storage for Gmail, Google Drive, Google Photos. In order to prepare for the new storage limit imposed by Google, we are notifying our highest data storage users first to give them an adequate amount of time to reduce their storage usage by deleting unnecessary files in Drive, Gmail, and Photos. A campus wide data clean up message will be sent at a later date.”

Users will begin to be notified starting  
July 19th

# DIVERSITY CORNER



[National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month](#)  
[Disability Pride Month](#)

Independence Day - July 4th  
[Eid al-Adha - July 8th - 9th](#)

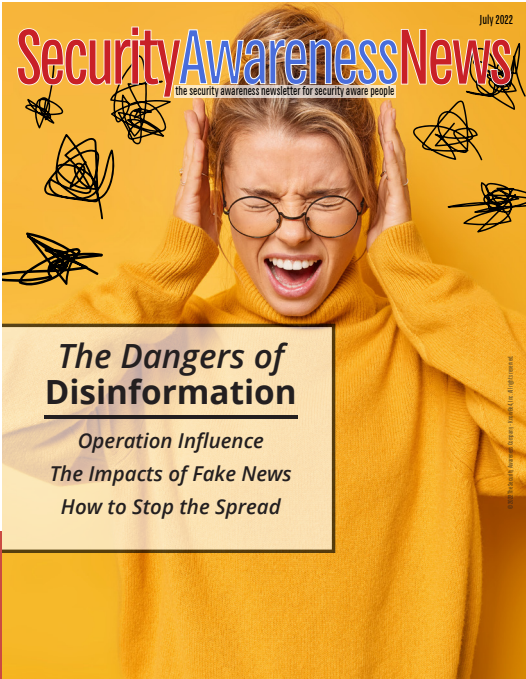


## FM @ WORK

Newly-promoted Landscape & Grounds staff Lamont Fitzgerald and Justin Garrison are demonstrating the correct attire for staying cool while out in the heat.

## Security Awareness News

To get more information regarding June’s security awareness news please click on the image and follow the link to view the PDFs.



## FM'S NEWEST FAMILY MEMBER

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FABIAN MENDEZ  
(ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN 2 IN THE FIRE SHOP),  
HIS WIFE BRENDA AND DAUGHTER MILANI ON THE  
ARRIVAL OF THEIR BABY BOY !!**



***Nathan Anthony Mendez***

June, 10th 2022

1:32 p.m.

9 pounds 1 ounce

21 inches

# DIVERSITY CORNER

## Celebrating Disability Pride Month

*According to Wikipedia, Disability Pride Month occurs in the United States every July to commemorate the passing of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in July 1990.*

*This month, Musa Pam caught up with John Cupo, HVACR Specialist 2 with the HVACR Building Automation Systems / Controls Shop.*

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### ***Can you tell us a bit about yourself and what brought you to UNLV?***

"I'm from Schenectady, NY. I was drafted into the US Navy in 1971 at age 18. My basic training was in San Diego and it was the first time I had ever been on an airplane. I got to see the world and learned many life lessons.

I worked at Honeywell on Building Automation Systems for 34 years, during which I had been installing BAS systems at UNLV while working there. I came to UNLV for several reasons. UNLV staff Scott Wright, Hugh Orr, and Karl Reynolds were influential in the decision that resulted in me coming to UNLV. I also had become tired of the excessive travel and the physically demanding work at Honeywell customer sites.

In June, 2022, I celebrated 8 years at UNLV."

***Having spent 30 days in a wheelchair myself 10 years ago following a cardio-vascular accident and living with physical impairments to this day, I can relate somewhat to you. Since this month of July is Disability Pride Month, is there anything you can tell us to raise awareness about how your disability came about ?***

"I didn't even know it was Disability Pride Month until you asked if I would agree to be interviewed. In November 2019, I noticed a sore on the side of the little toe on my left leg. I went to see a podiatrist and he thought it was a blood blister. Shortly after, another one appeared on my heel.

In March 2020, COVID-19 caused us to be sent home along with other staff at UNLV. I did not leave the house for fear of becoming infected and the tops of my toes began to become discolored. I saw my Primary Care Physician virtually and was transferred to a vascular surgeon who performed a bypass on my foot and a PICC line was put in. A different podiatrist I met while in the hospital suggested amputation. I had the toes amputated, then eventually the rest of my left foot was amputated.

Following the amputation, I fell and reopened the incision. That required another amputation. In November 2020, I got fit for my first prosthetic limb and this one is my second prosthetic limb because I grew out of the first one."



## DIVERSITY CORNER

### Celebrating Disability Pride Month Cont'd

#### ***What is it like to work at UNLV with a disability?***

“Aside from the times I was in the hospital, I have been working throughout. I appreciate that the university makes accommodations for persons with disabilities and I am able to work remotely four days a week, troubleshooting and programming various systems. My supervisors, management, and co-workers have been good to me and have been quite accommodating.”

#### ***Are there any difficulties that you have encountered that you would like to share with us?***

“I appreciate that there are handicapped parking spaces and walking ramps available to access our CSB building; however, the handrails used to get very hot to the touch during the day. The paint on the railings helps to reduce the heat.

Another issue is that I sometimes have trouble with the CSB entrance card reader. It is difficult to see whether the light is red or green and sometimes you're standing there trying to get it to work over and over again.”

#### ***Is there anything we can do to become more aware of the needs of persons with disabilities?***

“I would say please be aware of the amenities that are reserved for handicapped persons such as bathroom stalls. If you do not need it, please avoid using it. Also, be aware that handicapped parking spaces are reserved for disabled persons. Sometimes people see me coming and they hold the door open. I don't want to be treated differently, but I really appreciate that.

I am very happy with my co-workers. They are dedicated to their crafts and they are professionals. I love my work, working with computers and controls to help make campus spaces comfortable for our customers.”



## Robot Food Delivery on Campus

Starting in August with a limited pilot, Student Affairs and Aramark Dining services will be introducing robot food deliveries on campus by a company called Starship. The robots, known as Personal Delivery Devices or “PDDs,” are aware of the traffic rules associated with the locations in which Starship operates - and as any pedestrian, their robots follow the traffic laws as they exist - including stop signs and traffic signals. Each PDD yields the right-of-way to all lawful users of the public space (including pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles).

Starship’s PDDs complete more than 100,000 road crossings every day. The PDDs can identify the location of all road crossings within their service areas. In addition, the PDDs can identify whether the crossings have traffic lights, which traffic light controls the direction of pedestrian crossing (if there are multiple), etc. PDDs are capable of distinguishing between “Walk” and “Don’t Walk” signals, as well as determining the color of a traffic light.

Below are the rules and protocols that they operate under:

Before a PDD crosses a road, the device makes several calculations:

- o Is there an unobstructed view of the road and road crossing? If not, the PDD will adjust its position to improve its visibility.
- o Is there something that is obstructing the PDD’s path, which would prohibit a rapid crossing of the road?
- o Is there another road user that might impact the ability of the PDD to safely cross?
- o Are the various sensors fully operational?
- o If there is a traffic light, has the device confirmed the correct color signal, i.e., “Walk” or “Don’t Walk”?

Depending on the above-mentioned checklist, the PDD determines if it needs the assistance of a remote human operator to complete the road crossing. If the PDD determines that it requires the support of a remote human operator, a remote human operator is notified and will assist in addressing the PDD’s apprehensions. Among other things, the remote human operator can

- o Maneuver the PDD for greater visibility,
  - o Maneuver the PDD around an obstacle or road closing, and
  - o Confirm whether the traffic light is signaling “Walk” or “Don’t Walk”, etc.
- Starship’s PDDs are equipped with a range of technologies to provide safe, efficient and autonomous travel. Specifically, the devices are equipped with three layers of obstacle avoidance, which ensures their safe operations,

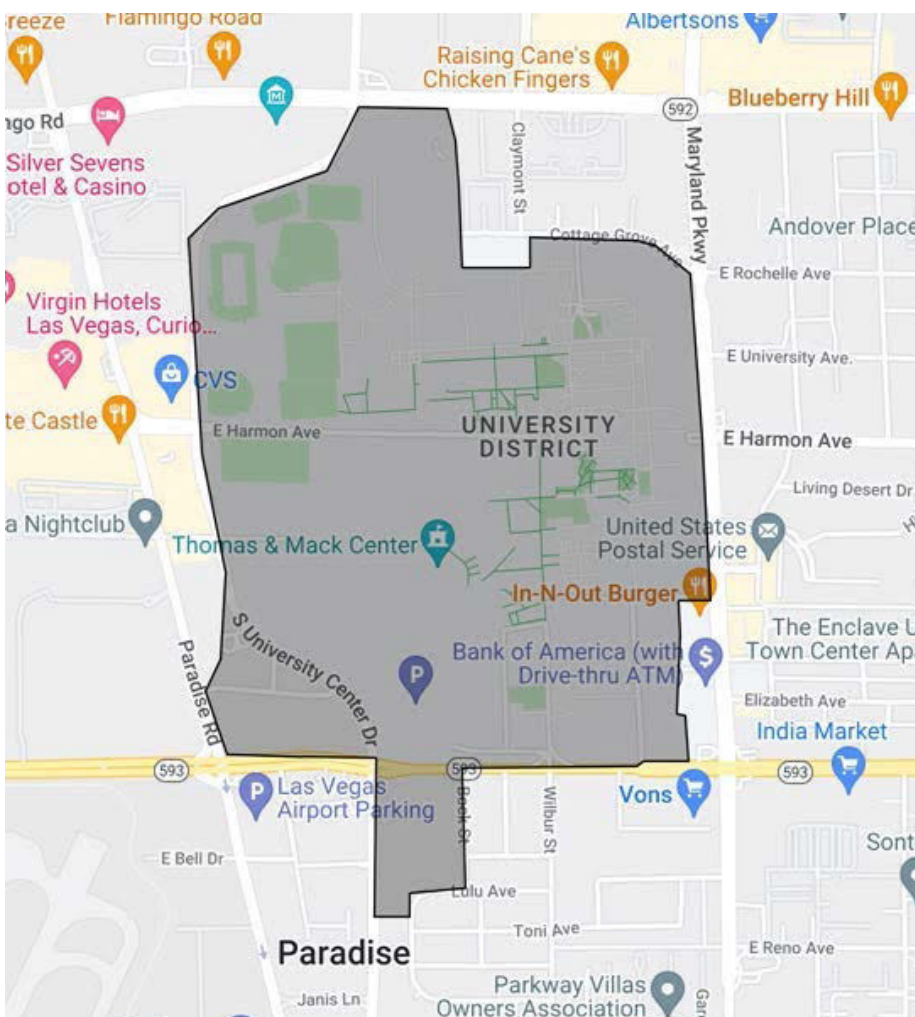
# UNIVERSITY NEWS

## Robot Food Delivery on Campus Cont'd

including cameras, ultrasonic obstacle detectors, a radar, Inertial Measurement Units, and a GPS. PDDs can identify objects in their vicinity and make the necessary course corrections to avoid them. When an object is adjacent to the PDD, but not in front of it, the PDD reduces its speed. When an object is in front of the PDD, the PDD will come to a complete stop.

Starship's PDDs are constantly monitored by remote operators who are capable of assuming control over the device at any time. If a PDD comes to an unscheduled stop, a remote operator is immediately pinged and will assume control over the device.

A video of Starship's service on college campus -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJ1NFLGeMjM>



(Right) The proposed service area map within which the PDDs will operate

(Below) Food Delivery Robot



# RMS SAFETY AWARDS

Congratulations to James Kearney and Dan Fry on being the recipients of the RMS Safety Award!



“James does a fantastic job and has really stepped up as a supervisor with the departing of Beau Barnett. He has navigated several safety slip and fall projects with extensive concrete work, stays in constant communication with RMS, attends campus project meetings to give input and has a great positive can-do attitude.”

“Dan Fry has gone above and beyond our expectations for managing the Universal Waste area. Where others have complained about the extra work, Dan Sweeps the area on a regular basis. He makes sure there are boxes available to load the bulbs, properly marks them and tapes them closed when full. He also makes sure they are neatly staked on the pallets ready for shipping. Usually the EM&LS staff had to do this in the past.”